

12.04 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE

REPORTED UNAUTHORISED CONSTRUCTION OF A CULTURAL CENTRE AT TRIVANDRUM BY THE SOVIET EMBASSY

MR. SPEAKER: Calling Attention.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH (Buxar): This is something which must be objected to. You call the Minister and the Minister is not here.

MR. SPEAKER: There is a Calling Attention on this subject in both the Houses, in the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha. The External Affairs Minister said that he is already attending the Rajya Sabha and the same question is pending there, and therefore the other Minister will be replying here.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH (Pali): The convention is that when the same subjects come in both the Houses, the senior Minister comes to the Lok Sabha and the junior Minister goes to the Rajya Sabha. That has been the convention all along. Or, let it be taken up at 2 O'Clock so that the Minister may be here.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा (कोटा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, एक मिनिस्टर जापान से माल लाता हुआ पकड़ा गया है। इससे हिन्दुस्तान की बदनामी होती है। उस मिनिस्टर का नाम बताया जाये। मैंने इस बारे में एक कार्लिंग एटेंशन नोटिस दिया था, लेकिन आप ने उस को रिजेक्ट कर दिया है। (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य इतना शोर क्यों कर रहे हैं ? (व्यवधान)

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : इस तरह हिन्दुस्तान का नाम बदनाम करने वाले मिनिस्टर का नाम बताया जाये। (व्यवधान)

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (उज्जैन) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह बड़े महत्व की बात है। इस तरह की घटना से सारे देश की बदनामी होती है। आप सरकार से इस बारे में उत्तर दिलवाइये। (व्यवधान)

श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा (हमीरपुर) : **

श्री रणधीर सिंह (रोहतक) : **

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

श्री रणधीर सिंह (रोहतक) : **

MR. SPEAKER: Will you obey me or not?

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH: I have been obeying so much, don't you appreciate? I have been obeying all through.

लेकिन एक नैशनलिस्ट और देशभक्त होने के नाते मैं यह टालरेट नहीं कर सकता हूँ कि पंजाब का एक मिनिस्टर इस तरह की ऊट-पटांग बातें करे। उस को गिरफ्तार किया जाये और गर्वनमेंट उस के खिलाफ एक्शन ले। (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस वक्त हाउस के सामने कोई सवाल नहीं है। इसलिए यह मुनासिब नहीं है कि कोई मेम्बर साहब इस तरह खड़े हो जायें और बोलना शुरू कर दें।

श्री रणधीर सिंह : पंजाब का एक मिनिस्टर कहता है कि अगर चण्डी गढ़ पंजाब को न दिया गया, तो फ़ौज में बग़ावत होगी। इस से बुरी बात और क्या हो सकती है ? (व्यवधान) हम इस को बर्दाश्त नहीं कर सकते। (व्यवधान)

श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, पंजाब में आग लगी हुई है। अगर केन्द्र ने उस तरफ़ ध्यान न दिया, तो मुल्क तबाह हो जायेगा। चण्डीगढ़ के प्रश्न पर पंजाब के एक मिनिस्टर,

[श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा]

श्री जीवन सिंह उमरांगल, और सन्त फ्रतेह सिंह ने बड़े आपत्तिजनक स्टेटमेंट दिये हैं (व्यवधान) वहां के एक एम० एल० ए०, सरदार गुरदेव सिंह, ने कहा है कि अगर चण्डीगढ़ पंजाब को न दिया गया, तो मरकज की ईंट से ईंट बजा देंगे। (व्यवधान) यह मामला पंजाब, हिमाचल प्रदेश और हरियाणा से सम्बन्ध रखता है। (व्यवधान) इस मामले पर सदन में बहस होनी चाहिए (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to tolerate this, nor give you any time. Will you please sit down or not.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री (हापुड़) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं मेम्बर साहबान से अज्ञ कर्हंगा कि यह देश की पालियामेंट है। (व्यवधान) इस तरह हमारे बारे में क्या इम्प्रेसन पड़ेगा ? (व्यवधान) रोज तो ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए। (व्यवधान)

श्री रणधीर सिंह : देश जल रहा है। अगर पालियामेंट इस बारे में कुछ नहीं करेगी, तो कौन करेगा ? आखिर यह पालियामेंट देश के लिए है। (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: I give you my final warning. If you go on like this, I will not tolerate it. (Interruption).

श्री रणधीर सिंह : इन लोगों को शर्म आनी चाहिए। (व्यवधान) ये बेशर्म लोग हैं। (व्यवधान) इन को देश से प्यार नहीं है। (व्यवधान)

(At this stage Shri Randhir Singh left the House.)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह आप का हाउस है और इस की डिमिटी आप के हाथ में है। (व्यवधान)

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : आप के हाथ में भी है। (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप का फ़र्ज है की इस हाउस में जो कुछ भी कहा जाये, वह हाउस की डिमिटी के मुताबिक हो। पालियामेंट देश की सर्वोच्च लेजिस्लेटिव बाडी है। जिस मेम्बर की मर्जी हो, वह खड़ा हो जाये और इस तरह शोर मचाये, इस तरह से काम नहीं चल सकता है। पालियामेंट एक आगस्ट बाडी है, यह हाउस एक आगस्ट हाउस है और इस की आगस्ट ट्रेडीशन को बनाये रखना आप के हाथ में है। कई बातें बड़ी अहम होती हैं, लेकिन उन को हाउस में लाने का एक तरीका होता है — कोई मोशन हो, पायंट आफ आर्डर हो, कोई तो बात हो। यह तो दुरुस्त नहीं है कि कोई मेम्बर जब चाहे खड़ा हो जाये और कहे कि फ़्लां इम्पार्टेन्ट मसला है। चेयर को इस तरह डेफ़ाई करना ठीक नहीं है। अगर ऐसा किया जाता रहेगा, तो मेरे लिए बड़ी मुश्किल होगी और फिर मेरे लिए इस के अलावा और कोई तरीका नहीं होगा कि रूल्ज में जो कुछ प्रोवाइडिड है, मैं उस पर अमल करूं। इस तरह की कोई कार्यवाही करने को मेरा दिल नहीं करता है। मैं उसे आखिरी हथियार समझता हूं। यह आप के हाथ में है कि मुझे हाउस की कार्यवाही ठीक तरह चलाने दी जाये। यह कोई अच्छी बात नहीं है कि मैं किसी को नेम करूं या बाहर निकालूं। मैं दोनों तरफ़ के लीडर साहबान से अज्ञ कर्हंगा कि वे इस बारे में मेरी मदद करें।

श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा : आन ए पाइंट आफ आर्डर, सर। (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: You are interrupting the House. He is continuously interrupting the House. I bring it to the notice of the House that if I am compelled to take action against him I will be justified.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप की भावनाओं से सहमति व्यक्त करते

हुए स्वयं इस पक्ष में हूँ कि इस सदन की गरिमा को बनाए रखने में सदस्यों को अध्यक्ष के आसन के साथ सहयोग करना चाहिए। अध्यक्ष के आसन के साथ सहयोग करने का अभिप्राय यह है कि उस में हमारी गरिमा भी है, केवल अध्यक्ष के आसन की गरिमा ही नहीं है? परन्तु मैं आप से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ जहाँ आप सदस्यों से अपेक्षा रखते हैं कि वह आप के साथ सहयोग करें वहाँ आप इस सरकार से भी यह कहें कि यह भी आप के साथ सहयोग करे। यहाँ सब से बड़ा प्रश्न यह है जिस बात पर साननीय सदस्य उत्तेजित थे या बर्मा जी उत्तेजित हैं कि एक प्रान्त में जब इस प्रकार के नारे लग रहे हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान से अलग स्टेट बना ली जायगी या फौजों में बगावत हो जायगी, तो आप सरकार से कहते क्यों नहीं हैं कि चण्डीगढ़ के सवाल को हल करे? इस विवादास्पद प्रश्न को लटका कर के इस तरह से लोगों को इस बात के लए मौका देना यह इस सरकार का कसूर है। इसलिए आप सरकार से कहिए कि इस सदन की समाप्ति के पहले सरकार स्वयं चण्डीगढ़ के सम्बन्ध में घोषणा करे।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप की बात यह है कि चण्डीगढ़ पर झगड़ा करने वाले जो दो स्टेट्स हैं, इत्फाक से मैं उन में से एक स्टेट से आता हूँ, मैं पंजाब से हूँ और इस हाउस में मैं आवजर्वेशन करूँ तो उस का गलत मतलब न समझा जाए इसलिए मैं इस पर आवजर्वेशन कोई नहीं करना चाहता। मेरा तो ताल्लुक इस हाउस के आर्डर से है, यह अमन से चले, ठीक चले। अगर वह चीज आती है, उस का ड्यू कोर्स में मोशन आएगा और उस की मेरिट्स में देखता हूँ ठीक है,

As a fair and impartial man, I will have to consider it. लेकिन यह जो तरीका है कि जिस की मर्जी जो चलाए तो यह चलेगा नहीं। इस पर यह मत समझ लेना, अगर कोई ऐक्शन लूँ तो यह न समझ लेना कि मैं पंजाब का हूँ इसलिए ऐक्शन लिया है। मैं ने तो कान्टीन्यूड इंटरप्रांस की वजह से ऐक्शन लिया है।

श्री विश्वनाथ राय (देवरिया) : उधर से लोग बोलते रहते हैं, इधर के लोगों को भी कभी मौका मिलेगा या नहीं?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब अगर आपस में मुकाबला करना है तो करें।

श्री प्रेम चंद वर्मा : मैं आप की बात मानता हूँ लेकिन मैं यह कहता हूँ कि उन को इजाजत आप देते हैं तो हम को भी इजाजत मिलनी चाहिए।

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing him.

श्री श्रोम प्रकाश त्यागी (मुरादाबाद) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कार्लिंग अटेंशन से पहले इस प्रकार की कार्यवाही की इजाजत है क्या?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इजाजत का ही तो झगड़ा है। इस का ही तो रोना रो रहा हूँ।

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur) : Sir, I rise to a point of order, before you take up the next item. The point of order is this. No statement has been circulated to the Members who have tabled the Call Attention Notice, and it is a dereliction of duty on the part of the Speaker; I do not know whether it is deliberately done; I do not know whether they are suppressing all the facts and they have not communicated the statement to us. (Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER : On the one hand, all of you come, when I say that there is very little and short time left for the Government to prepare anything.

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore) : Sir, what the hon. Member has asked is quite relevant; he is asking for a statement from the Government which should have been circulated. Would you ask the Government whether a statement made just five minutes before is proper. We want to know why he has not circulated it.

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey.

श्री विश्वनाथ पांडेय (सलेमपुर) : मैं अबिलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के निम्नलिखित विषय की ओर वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाता

(श्री विश्वनाथ पांडेय)

हूँ और प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह इस बारे में एक वक्तव्य दें :

“रूसी दूतावास द्वारा त्रिवेन्द्रम में एक सांस्कृतिक केन्द्र के अनधिकृत निर्माण का समाचार।”

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): Sir, the Government of India's policy, as intimated to all foreign diplomatic missions in India, has been that Government will not recognise the stationing of diplomatic officers or establishments or sections of diplomatic missions in any place other than where the embassies or the trade and consular offices have been permitted to function. This order was circulated to diplomatic missions in February, 1954.

So far as the construction of the building by the Soviet Embassy in Trivandrum is concerned, the Soviet Embassy approached the Ministry of External Affairs in June, 1969 for permission to set up a cultural centre in Trivandrum. This centre would comprise of a library, a reading room and a cinema room. They were informed that their request would be examined. However, when it came to our notice that the Soviet Embassy had purchased property in Trivandrum with a view to building a cultural centre, the Soviet Embassy were informed in the first week of December that this could not be done without our permission and that the existing rules did not permit the opening of such centres outside the location of the embassy or the trade or consular office and they should not, therefore, proceed with the construction of the building. The Soviet Ambassador said that it was not his desire to do anything in the matter against our wishes or without our permission. He also assured us that he had stopped further construction of the building and that he would fully abide by the decision of the Government of India in the matter.

श्री विश्वनाथ पांडेय : श्रीमन् ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि जब से कांग्रेस की केन्द्रीय सरकार और दोनों साम्यवादी गुटों में राजनैतिक गठ-

बन्धन हुआ है तब से रूसी दूतावास यह समझता है कि भारतवर्ष भी रूस का एक भ्रग हो गया है। इस कारण बगैर किसी परमिशन के वह सांस्कृतिक केन्द्र अनधिकृत रूप से त्रिवेन्द्रम में निर्माण कर रहा है जैसा कि समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित हुआ है। केरल की सरकार के जो मुख्य मंत्री हैं, वर्तमान और भूतपूर्व मुख्य मंत्री, दोनों ने यह इनकार किया है कि केरल सरकार से इस के संबंध में कोई अनुमति नहीं प्रदान की गई है और वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्री ने भी कहा है कि इन्होंने भी कोई उन का आवेदन स्वीकार नहीं किया है जिस के माध्यम से वह इस प्रकार से सांस्कृतिक केन्द्र स्थापित कर सकें। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बिना इन की अनुमति से उन्होंने सांस्कृतिक केन्द्र स्थापित किया है या करने जा रहे हैं या भवन निर्माण करने जा रहे हैं उस के संबंध में सरकार कौन सी कार्यवाही करने जा रही है ? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन्हें कब मालूम हुआ है और मालूम होने के बाद तात्कालिक कौन सा ठोस कदम उन्होंने उठाया है जिस के द्वारा रूसी दूतावास वहां पर सांस्कृतिक केन्द्र निर्माण न कर सके ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : हम ने क्या कदम उठाया है अग्र्यक्ष महोदय, यह तो मैं अभी बता चुका हूँ और उस का क्या परिणाम आगे हुआ है यह भी बता चुका हूँ। जहां तक कि यह सवाल माननीय सदस्य ने किया कि इसके बारे में कोई उन को इजाजत केरल सरकार ने दी, मैं नहीं समझता हूँ कि उस का कोई सवाल उठता है। केरल सरकार के इजाजत देने का कोई सवाल नहीं, उन्होंने दी या नहीं दी, दोनों से हमारा मतलब नहीं है। यह तो सिर्फ केन्द्र से इस का मतलब है। केन्द्र सरकार मंजूरी दे सकती थी और केन्द्र सरकार ने उन को कोई मंजूरी नहीं दी है। जहां तक कि इस का सवाल है कि उन्होंने क्यों बनाया, कैसे बनाया तो इस के ऊपर हम ने रूसी दूतावास से बात की थी। उन का यह कहना था कि कुछ उन को डम में गलतफहमी हो गई। चूंकि और दणों के भी कुछ ऐसे केन्द्र

हैं उन्होंने समझा था कि कोई इस में कठिनाई नहीं होगी और उसी से उन्होंने यह काम शुरू किया। जैसा आप जानते हैं जमीन खरीदने या उस के ऊपर काम शुरू करने की मुमानियत नहीं है, मुमानियत केन्द्र स्थापित करने की है और वह उन्हें बता दिया गया है कि केन्द्र स्थापित करने की उन को आज्ञा नहीं दी गई है। इस के आगे अगर कोई बात होती है तो आगे चल कर इस के बारे में बाद में देखेंगे।

SHRI P. G. SEN (Purnea): Sir, on a point of clarification. He said that the State Government is not in the know of it. The land has been purchased and registered. How is the State Government not in the know of things?

MR. SPEAKER: I do not allow it.

SHRI N. K. SOMANI (Nagpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, few things could be a greater affront to this country than the presumption that just because a particular State Government—Kerala, in this connection—is composed of a particular complexion of red, a shade which, I am told, is of the favourite colour of our Foreign Minister, the Soviet Embassy with this degree of impunity could, in spite of the clarification that the matter is pending with the Foreign Ministry, go ahead with the construction of a building for the perpetration of their sinister propaganda. I am not surprised at the presumptuous attitude of the Soviet Government, knowing the completely servile attitude of our Foreign Minister as far as the Soviet Union is concerned. I am also not surprised because of the evasive stand taken by the Kerala Government. But the larger question remains as to how a foreign embassy can.....(Interruption).

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR (Quilon): Is he making a speech?

SHRI N. K. SOMANI: It is a larger issue about the integrity of my country.

AN HON. MEMBER: About which you are not worried....(Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER: Do not get excited.

SHRI N. K. SOMANI: Why is he interrupting unnecessarily and attributing motives?

The large issue is as to how an embassy functioning in New Delhi can take this independent decision knowing fully well that the matter has not yet been disposed of by the Foreign Ministry of this country and go ahead and start constructing a building. In this connection I would like the Foreign Minister to make it clear to the Soviet Union that either Kerala or West Bengal or any other part of this country is not Czechoslovakia but is a part of the Sovereign Democratic Republic of India.

SHRI RANJEET SINGH (Khalilabad): And not a colony of Soviet Russia.

SHRI N. K. SOMANI: I would, therefore, like him not only to withhold consent to this propaganda centre in Trivandrum but also to take certain positive penal action against the Soviet Embassy. I would also like him to answer as to how many other countries have been disallowed to build other cultural centres in this country wherever they wanted to do so by the same Foreign Minister.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: What the hon. Member has said is largely conditioned by his own thinking. I would like to assure the House that there is no question of any servile attitude of the Government of India. Government of India's action in this matter has been absolutely firm and correct. But we are dealing with friendly governments and it is not necessary to rub them in a particular manner. There is apparently some misunderstanding (Shri Piloo Mody: Misunderstanding?), they say, on the basis of which they started this. But the permission was not given. I do not know what the hon. Member was trying to make out, any kind of collusion and other things. I can assure him, that unlike him the Government does not function on the basis of such collusions or otherwise.

So far as the question of other governments is concerned, I cannot think of any other case that came before me. Because he is asking about something specifically, probably he

[Shri Dinesh Singh]

has been briefed by someone that I turned down somebody else's request.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): Have you not been briefed by anybody?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I can tell him that we did not permit the change of one centre, which the United States Government wanted, from one centre to another.

SHRI N. K. SOMANI: Apart from withholding consent, would you take some action?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Lakkappa.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: The hollowness and shallowness of the External Affairs Ministry, headed by Raja Dinesh Singh, will not bring any credit to this country because he has suppressed facts by not even supplying the statement—he has not even respected the parliamentary convention—about the construction of the cultural centre by the Russian Embassy without the permission of the Central Government and the External Affairs Ministry (*Interruption*). Circulars have been sent to all embassies not to hold or occupy any land without the permission of this Government but for a moment the hon. Minister has conceded that the Russian Embassy has purchased and occupied land belonging to Kerala and has started construction. And Kerala is in Indian territory.

Now I would like to put the following facts before you. Let him not play hide and seek with Parliament. He must come out with a concrete statement and investigate all the facts that I am going to give. The facts are as follows. This building belonged to a private owner. It was leased out to a Congress office run by the KPCC. After this land was purchased by the Russian Embassy the KPCC has taken Rs. 45,000 as *pugree* and sold this building to the Russians. Is it not against the sovereignty of this country to sell away land without the permission of the State Government or the Central Government—even under the Kerala Registration Act? No foreign embassy is allowed to hold any land without the permission of the Central Government.

The CBI, central intelligence, is working in Kerala. It is located just 1½ kilometres from this place in Trivandrum. Why has this central agency not investigated the matter and why have they not got the information? What is the secret of it? I would like to have a pertinent and categorical answer to all these points.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I am not quite sure to what secrets the hon. Member, Shri Lakkappa, has referred. If he would like to take these secrets out.....(*Interruption*).

SHRI PILOO MODY: These things you hide in the public interest.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: If he would pass the secrets on to me, I can assure him that I shall certainly have those examined.

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN (Badagara): It is not a secret. It is there in the sale deed that Rs. 45,000 were paid to the KPCC.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): It is not a secret. They have given the place also.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Black money. *Pugree*.

SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN (Trivandrum): The KPCC President, Shri T. O. Bawa, has announced that he has received Rs. 45,000 from these people.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: If an announcement has already been made it can hardly be a secret. I was coming to that portion of it but I was talking, first of all, of the secrets and saying that if there are any secrets and if they would be passed on to me, I shall certainly have them examined.

So far as the specific question that the hon. Member asked about the purchase of land is concerned, so far as our information goes—and we have not been able to get full information from the Kerala Government to whom we have addressed a communication—the land apparently belonged to one Shrimati Lakshmi Amma and Shrimati Parukutty Amma and it was sold for a price of Rs. 3,80,000.

SHRI PILOO MODY: What about the *pugree*?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: The hon. Member, Shri Mody, knows about *pugree*. I do not know about *pugree* nor about the system. I have never understood it. But let me give you the facts.

SHRI PILOO MODY: He calls it pocket money, Sir.

श्री राम सेवक यादव (बाराबंकी) : यह झगड़ा नज़राने और पगड़ी का हो गया है। हम लोगों को इस प्रश्न का जवाब मिलना चाहिये।

श्री दिनेश सिंह : माननीय सदस्य ने नज़राना और पगड़ी के बजाय जो नया नाम रखा हो मुझे बतला दीजिये, ताकि मैं आइन्दा उसी की बात किया करूँ। जहाँ तक माननीय सदस्य का सवाल है —

It has come to our notice. It is actually a part of the lease deed. There is no secret in it that a sum of Rs. 45,000 was paid to Shri Bawa..... (Interruption).

श्री पीलू मोदी : कौनसा बावा ? *

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : आपकी कांग्रेस का या इन की कांग्रेस का ? ये बावा साहब स्टिलर के पहले कांग्रेस के अध्यक्ष थे इसलिए दोनों ही जिम्मेदार हैं।

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

SEVERAL HON. Members rose.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU (Chittoor): I want to know from the Minister whether this transaction took place when Mr. Bawa was with the Prime Minister and with her knowledge.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: So far as the question that has been raised about the split, I should like to say that the Prime Minister and others with her have not gone out, the Members can themselves work the dates when they have decided to go out. We are not going into these matters. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

श्री रवि राय : जब कांग्रेस यूनाइटेड थी उस समय के बावा हैं।

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SHRI DINESH SINGH: May I say with due respect to the Hon. Members that I do not see any reason for any sort of a feeling that I am giving any new information. This is incorporated in the sale deed. They can look into the sale deed and satisfy themselves. I am not giving any information that has come to me from any source other than from a registered sale deed. If they were so shy about it, they should not have got it registered.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Why is the Minister stressing about the receipt of Rs. 45,000 again and again?

AN HON. MEMBER: When the deed was registered, the Congress was united.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: May I clarify the situation so that there is no misunderstanding?

श्री रवि राय : जब कांग्रेस एक थी उस वक़्त के बावा हैं।

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA (Mandya): What is the date of the sale deed?

MR. SPEAKER: Will you please sit down? Every time everybody is getting up. I cannot allow that. Let him complete his statement. No interruptions please.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: So far as the question of purchase of land is concerned, so far as our information goes, there is no ban on the purchase of land by foreign missions except in certain specified areas where we have....

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kendrapara): Only Indians cannot purchase land in Jammu & Kashmir. (Interruptions).

श्री रवि राय : यह जो सवाल लकप्पा साहब ने उठाया है तो केरल में जो रजिस्ट्रेशन ऐक्ट है उसमें प्राविजन है कोई फारेनर जमीन खरीदेंगे तो उसके लिए केन्द्र की अनुमति लेनी होगी।

श्री दिनेश सिंह : मैं नहीं कह सकता।

श्री शिव नारायण (बस्ती) : क्या हमारी इम्बेसीज़ को बाहर इसी तरह से जमीन खरीदने का राइट है ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह: माननीय सदस्य चाहें तो जाकर खरीद सकते हैं। मैं इसमें क्या कर सकता हूँ। लेकिन जहाँ जैसा कायदा है मैं तो उसकी बात कर रहा हूँ। यहाँ दूसरा कायदा बना देंगे तो उसके हिसाब से चलेगा।

SHRI PILOO MODY: Can we purchase a bit of Tashkent?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Unlike the hon. Member, Mr. Mody, I do not have obsession, Sir. So far I am giving the fact that there is no restriction on this. An hon. Member asked whether the Kerala State has any restrictions. I cannot say anything offhand, Sir.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH (Pali): I hope very fondly that the Minister will be explicit in answering my question as he has answered Mr. Lak-kappa.

SHREE RANJEET SINGH: And truthfully also.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: Yes. All this sort of misunderstanding that the Minister mentioned in his statement and later on in supplementaries about his coming to know at a late stage when they knew about the transfer of land is all bunk, Sir. The fact remains that a building had to collapse when nine people died, then only the Government came to know of that. What is the reason? The Foreign Minister has hardly any time for his Ministry. He is more involved in the internal politics of a particular faction and the Ministry is left in charge of officials who have been acting in an anti-national manner. (Interruptions). Let the Minister answer. Will you also try to think for a moment?

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't pass such remarks.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: Will you also try to think as to why it was necessary for the hon. Minister to use the word 'misunderstanding' so many times? The reason for it is that while the application from the USSR Embassy was lying pending and the Government had written to them that it is under their examination, a former Secretary, Mr. K. P. S. Menon, kept on following the matter with

Mr. T. N. Kaul who told him specifically that the Russians could go ahead with the work of the Cultural building. That is how the 'misunderstanding' came. Will the Minister tell us specifically whether this has happened and whether Mr. Kaul has said this? Because of this the alleged misunderstanding took place. May I also know from him as to how far he thinks that it is proper for the former officials upto the rank of Secretary and others—so high a rank—to participate and hold high offices in such international organizations and societies which may lead them to a position where they become a sort of foreign agents in our country? Is it proper? Is it in our national interests? (Interruptions). May I also know as to why is it (Interruptions). I could understand it is a discomfiture to them, because if these agencies are not allowed, they would not get their pocket money. How is it that since the land was sold through the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee and since the Congress people are also involved in it, that at such a late stage this matter came to his knowledge? Was it again because the Secretaries and other high officials sat over the matter?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: May I first of all say that the insinuation made by some hon. Members that I should answer the question truthfully is neither . . .

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: It is a good insinuation.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: We are here to give only facts to the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I welcome your interruptions but not very often.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Unlike some hon. Members, we do not try to twist them but try to give full facts. That is why we cannot oblige them because they want us to give it in a particular fashion which we find ourselves unable to do. The first point the hon. Member has mentioned . . .

SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI (Guna): About the Members, the Members have a right to make a remark against him.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I hope the hon. Member, Acharya Kripalani,

will agree that I also have certain rights as a Member and I am going to exercise it just as he is trying to exercise the right. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PILOO MODY: We welcome his remarks.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : ये भी इधर आ गये हैं, बड़ा मुश्किल हो गया है। क्या किया जाये ?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: So far as the first point that was made, . . . (*Interruptions*) I am not quite sure if the hon. Members want to have an answer.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: Yes, we want an answer.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Then please listen quietly. The hon. Member said that we had taken up the matter only after we had been informed of the fall of the column. That is not correct. We had actually taken up this matter with the Soviet Ambassador on the 5th December. The column fell on 11th December.

SHRI RABI RAY: That is no excuse.

SHRI PILOO MODY: In anticipation of the fall!

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Sir, I am sure, it is not the desire of the hon. Members—including Shri Piloo Mody—to attribute to me the vision that we could see the pillar falling on the 11th and that is why we had taken it up on the 5th. The hon. Member asked about Mr. K.P.S. Menon having had a talk with the Foreign Secretary. It is true Mr. K.P.S. Menon saw me and mentioned to me that he had spoken to the Foreign Secretary about this matter some time back, I think it was about a year or so back informally, and thereafter the Soviet embassy had taken it up with us directly. I had a chance to check this matter up with the Foreign Secretary and he said very categorically that Mr. K. P. S. Menon had not taken up the matter with him. Subsequently, Mr. K. P. S. Menon had written to me to say that it is his recollection that he had taken up the matter with Foreign Secretary and it was on that basis that he had further talks with the Soviet Embassy.

SHRI RANJEET SINGH: Throw out your Foreign Secretary.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: Will there be an enquiry? Will the hon. Minister agree to have an enquiry into this matter?

SHRI RABI RAY: Sir, the cat is out of the bag.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: There is no need to have an enquiry. I am giving the facts. If the hon. Members do not want to listen to facts, I am willing to sit down. Now, the point is this, that Mr. K. P. S. Menon had subsequently informed me that since then he had spoken to the Foreign Secretary and in view of the fact that Foreign Secretary has categorically stated that this matter has not been discussed between Mr. Menon and the Foreign Secretary, he being senior in year, it is possible that he formed a wrong impression. In any case this does not alter the fact that the Soviet Embassy had to take up this matter formally with us, as they did in June and they should really have waited before they got an answer. But we are glad that they are now willing to cooperate in this matter and I am sure that this will be sorted out.

AN HON. MEMBER: There should be an enquiry. Mr. K. P. S. Menon might be under pressure from the Minister.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour): In our country there are 12 United States Cultural Centres, 25 British Centres, including Centres of British Councils and 8 West German Centres. There is the Anandmarg notorious for the misdeeds in that part of the country where it functions. Dalai Lama has been maintaining a Secretariat and a mini-kingdom. (*Interruption*).

SHRI M. L. SONDDHI (New Delhi): Sir, I object to his remark. He is a person who has been given an asylum in this country. Why should he be bracketing him with other people? If he mentions about other embassies I have no objection. But why should he bring in the name of Dalai Lama here? Sir, Dalai Lama should be defended in this House. We should not bring in the name of Tibet. We don't mind the name of U.S.A. or any other country. Tibet and India are inseparable. And, Sir, we shall defend Tibet with all our might.

SHRI UMANATH (Pudukkottai): Dalai Lama is not above the House.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI: He is the man who fought for the freedom of his country. I remember Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia uttering on so many occasions that we must rise to the defence of Tibet. (*Interruption*).

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I will be compelled to take action against him also.

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR (Peerumade): On a point of order. On a previous occasion when I mentioned the name of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, this hon. Member took upon himself to stop us. (*Interruption*).

SHRI M. L. SONDHI: Sir, the honour of this House is at stake. I am an Indian national. I have every right to defend the honour of this House.

SHRI UMANATH: Sir, Tibet is not above the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I request hon. Members not to speak without my permission.

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR: If the hon. Speaker thinks that the hon. Member (Shri Jyotirmoy Basu) should not make a reference to Dalai Lama, that is something which we can understand. But why should the hon. Member (Shri Sondhi) take upon himself this responsibility of defending the Dalai Lama?

MR. SPEAKER: It is for me.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: This gentleman, Dalai Lama . . . (*Interruption*).

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: On a point of order, Sir. (*Interruption*).

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. SPEAKER: Don't provoke them.

SHRI UMANATH: Where is the question of provocation, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: He made a reference.

SHRI UMANATH: By mere mention of the word, how can they get excited? (*Interruption*).

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. SPEAKER: Let hon. Members please sit down. He made a mention

about Dalai Lama. The hon. Member asked how Mr. Sondhi has got the right to intervene, it is for the Chair to ask. These things should not create any disturbance. You may go ahead without harping on that matter.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Sir, I have to touch that point.

AN HON. MEMBER: Reference to Dalai Lama is inadmissible.

MR. SPEAKER: I don't think any reference to Dalai Lama is inadmissible. It is perfectly right. (*Interruption*). The hon. Member need not thump the benches; I said, there is no reference if he has made a reference to Dalai Lama.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Coming to the point, Sir, this gentleman, Dalai Lama, not only has got a mini-kingdom but he has acquired a number of tea gardens on the Indo-Tibetan and Indo-Chinese border. (*Interruption*).

SHRI UMANATH: As a Member, I rise on a point of order. My point of order is this. This House is supreme so far as any happenings in the country or any person living in this country is concerned.

SHRI M. R. MASANI (Rajkot): It must be relevant.

SHRI UMANATH: It is relevant.

SHRI M. R. MASANI: It is not relevant.

SHRI UMANATH: You are not the Speaker. My point of order is this. No person in this country can be above the House. My hon. friend Shri Jyotirmoy Basu, being part of the House or I for that matter, have got the right to mention something which we feel is quite relevant to the subject under discussion here. There can't be a ruling that reference to any particular person is not relevant. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI K. N. TIWARY rose—

MR. SPEAKER: I am on my legs. He referred to so many others. He referred to cultural centres and all that. I have no objection. But so far as national reflection goes, he said, it is notorious etc.

SHRI UMANATH: He did not say notorious.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: You may please see the record, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: We have recognised him as somebody with a certain status. . . .

SHRI UMANATH: He cannot be more than a citizen.

MR. SPEAKER: He can give instances and say that all these cultural centres have been opened and so on. But I shall not allow him to be aspersive about everybody. I am not going to allow that.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: I shall try and abide by your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: Let him be a little moderate in his expression.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: This gentleman Mr. Dalai Lama not only runs a secretariat and a small kingdom here in Delhi but has purchased tea gardens on the Sino-Indian border . . . (Interruptions).

SHRI D. N. PATODIA (Jalore): This cannot be permitted here.

SHRI M. R. MASANI: On a point of order. . . .

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry I have to ask the hon. Member Shri Jyotirmoy Basu to be relevant. . . .

SHRI M. R. MASANI: On a point of order. Kindly see rule 356 which reads thus:

"The Speaker, after having called the attention of the House to the conduct of a member who persists in irrelevance or in tedious repetition either of his own arguments or of the arguments used by other members in debate, may direct him to discontinue his speech."

I request you to act under rule 356 and stop this Member.

SHRI UMANATH: I request you to stop Shri M. R. Masani from raising this point of order.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Use the rule. You were threatening to do it a little earlier.

MR. SPEAKER: I had invited the hon. Member's attention to that. He has agreed to that. I only objected to his aspersion. I said that he should not be aspersive and he has agreed. Now, let him put his question. Let him not make a speech.

SHRI PILOO MODY: He says that he has a kingdom in Delhi. What sort of nonsense is this?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Apart from the instances mentioned just now, there are numerous subsidiaries of the CIA and numerous foreign missionaries who receive billions of rupees every year for doing anti-nationalist activities and for supporting those who are opposing socialism.

SHRI PILOO MODY: They are supporting Shri Dinesh Singh and his colleagues.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: So, I would like to ask a categorical question. Since 1954, when the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had imposed a restriction on the creation of foreign centres in this country, how many foreign centres have been allowed to be built or have been built and created without specific prior written permission from Government. . . .

SHRI PILOO MODY: 2000 Russian and 3000 Chinese.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Will the Government give a categorical assurance on the floor of the House that those who had built such centres in the country will be forced to close them down?

SHRI RANJEET SINGH: It should include the headquarters of the Communist Party (M) everywhere. They are foreign agencies.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: There are two issues in this matter which have been raised by Shri Jyotirmoy Basu, and I think it will be proper if I explain to the House the two separate issues involved. One is an extension of a mission, either a diplomatic or a consular or a trade mission by establishing a cultural centre or an information centre or a library or anything else of that nature. The rule that we have laid down applied to this. I am not aware of any centres of this nature having been established after Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's directive.

So far as the other centres are concerned, they have been established on a cultural arrangement. For instance,

[Shri Dinesh Singh]

the Max Mueller Bhavan has been established. Then, the Alliance Française have various centres and also the British Council. . . .

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: How many?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: The British Council has 11, Alliance Française have 6, and the Max Mueller Bhavan has 8. . . .

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: What about the UAR or the Arab League?

SHRI R. K. AMIN (Dhandhuka): Are they owned by the Embassies?

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: He must tell us in regard to the Arab League.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I must not tell unless the Speaker desires me to tell; I cannot tell because the hon. Member says that I should tell it.

SHRI PILOO MODY: He is answering the hon. Member's question, and not the Speaker's question. He is answering our questions, not the Speaker's.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Shri Jyotirmoy Basu had also asked about other nations. He should understand the question properly. He has not understood it properly. Let him understand it at least now.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I do not have to understand from the hon. Member. He needs some more understanding. So far as the question is concerned, it is, Sir, to your satisfaction that I have to answer, not to the hon. Member's satisfaction,

SHRI PILOO MODY: From where did he get all these notions? He has to answer always to the satisfaction of the House. Even his colleague is not satisfied. Just see his expression.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: He has to answer to the satisfaction of the House.

SHRI P. G. SEN: Is he to answer to the satisfaction of the House or of the Speaker? He has to answer to the satisfaction of the House.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Apart from these centres, there have been some which have been established. . . .

SHRI P. G. SEN: On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: I know his point of order. Let him resume his seat.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: There have been some centres established by the United States Embassy, and we are examining this matter to see if it should be brought in line with the policy.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. SPEAKER: Now, no more on this. Let us go on to the next item.

SHRI P. G. SEN: It is a very serious position. He has said that he has only to satisfy the Chair. But I have got a right to get an answer to the question to my satisfaction. So, it is the hon. Member who should be satisfied. You are a Member of the House first and then only a Speaker. So, why should he say that he has to satisfy the Chair? He has to satisfy the Member.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: He has said that it is for your satisfaction. It should be to the satisfaction of the Member. Am I not a Member of the House? You must clarify this point.

MR. SPEAKER: The Speaker represents the whole House. . . .

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: It is on record that Shri Chengalraya Naidu is famous for loose talking.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Shri Jyotirmoy Basu is an agent of Communist Russia. Why does he talk here?

MR. SPEAKER: Any Member who is not satisfied with the answer brings it to the notice of the Speaker and the Speaker, if he thinks alike, asks the hon. Member to clarify the position. It is just a technical thing. Why should hon. Members get excited so much over it?

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: It is not for you to be satisfied, but it for the House to be satisfied.

MR. SPEAKER: Let the hon. Member keep his temper cool.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: The Minister should be put in order. He does not understand it properly.