

[श्री भीमसेन झा]

दिया जाता है तो पहले वाला घायल ही बन सकता था। उस हालत में जब वह भाषण प्रसारित हो गया तो पटना केन्द्र के वायरलेटर के खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई की गई? अगर कोई कार्रवाई नहीं की गई तो भ्रम की जाएगी या नहीं की जाएगी? मुख्य मंत्री के खिलाफ तो मतदाताओं ने कार्रवाई कर दी है, इसलिये मैं उन के खिलाफ कार्यवाही करने की मांग नहीं करता हूँ। लेकिन उस भ्रमसर के खिलाफ कोई कार्रवाई की जायेगी या नहीं? उस ने हिदायतों का जो उल्लंघन किया है और जिस को सभी बयान में पद कर सुनाया गया है, उस के लिए उस के खिलाफ कोई कार्रवाई की जाएगी या नहीं की जाएगी?

बंगाल के बारे में भी बताया गया है कि भ्रम मंत्री जो वहाँ के हैं वे यह कहना चाहते थे कि सभी इन्कनाब नहीं हुआ है। सभी इन्कनाब होना बाकी है। उम बीज को मविधान का उल्लंघन बनाया गया। मैं समझना चाहता हूँ कि क्या हम यह समझ लें कि सभी जो चुनाव हुए हैं उन से देश का जो भ्रमसर था वह दूर हो गया है? मैं समझता हूँ कि नहीं हुआ है। हम अधिक इन्कनाब चाहते हैं, सामाजिक इन्कनाब चाहते हैं, हम मही मानों में इन्कनाब चाहते हैं, साथ ही जो देश में सभी ज्ञान है, उस से पूरी तरह से सन्तुष्ट नहीं हैं। कोई ही भी नहीं सकता है। हाँ, परिवर्तन किस-किस तरह से हो इस को लेकर थोड़ा बहुत राय में भ्रमसर हो सकता है। लेकिन बुनियादी तौर पर परिवर्तन हम सब चाहते हैं, इन्कनाब हम सब चाहते हैं (इंटरचेंज) में पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या प्रायः इन्कनाब सब के इस्तेमाल पर रोक लगा दी जाएगी, क्या इस सब को व्यवैधानिक बोलित कर दिया जाएगा? सब घायले चुनाव पांच वर्ष परचाहूँ हूँ। इस बीच में क्या कोई परिवर्तन नहीं होना। मैं जानना चाहूँगा कि क्या साथ इन्कनाब सब पर रोक लगा देंगे?

Shri K. K. Shah: So far as the officer at the Patna Radio Station was concerned, the circumstances were looked into by my predecessor and he thought that there was no justification for taking any action because there were numerous other things. (Interruptions) As I have mentioned, the attention of the Chief Minister was drawn. The Chief Minister protested and said that he would not go on the radio at all. I have already mentioned this. That was welcomed by all.

15.08 hrs

STATEMENT ON U.K.'S RENEWED APPLICATION FOR ENTRY INTO E.C.M.—contd.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, the Minister of Commerce will reply to the questions put by the hon. members this morning.

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): Some hon. Members had asked similar questions or raised points closely connected with one another and I would, therefore, attempt to answer them subject-wise and I hope that the hon. members will excuse me if I do not take the names of all the hon. members who had asked questions this morning.

Some hon. members tried to give an impression that our foreign trade was largely with the United Kingdom. Mr. Madhu Limaye mentioned the figure of 40 per cent. I should like to inform the House that our export to the United Kingdom comes roughly to 19 to 20 per cent. Probably, he got the figure of 40 per cent from paragraph 8 of my statement where I have talked of tobacco exports and not total exports.

It is true that we have a considerable trade with the United Kingdom and that is largely because of the historic processes of association over several centuries, but I would like to mention that after Independence, although our trade with the United Kingdom has gone up, diversification has reduced the percentage of our

trade with the United Kingdom considerably and we have diversified our trade. We have made special payment arrangements and have considerable trade with East European countries and the Soviet Union. We have also trade with the European Community, the United States, the countries in Africa and the countries in West, South and East Asia and it is the result of our persistent effort that we have been able to reach bilateral arrangements with three of the members of the Community—France, West Germany and Italy. We have also arrangement with the Community arrangements where they have either suspended or reduced import duties on some of the Indian goods. I think this was the question asked by my hon. friend Shri Puri who said that we had not contacted the other members of the European Community. I wish he had read the statement more carefully; if he had done so, he would have seen that we have diversified and we have contacted them. He also asked me what I was doing in Paris. I think I was doing the same thing there for which he had himself been there.....

Shri M. L. Sondhi (New Delhi): I am not Shri Puri but I am Shri Sondhi.

Shri Dinesh Singh: I am sorry. Since the Member is new, I made a mistake. I have seen his photograph in the papers, and I should have remembered his name.

Shri Piloo Mody (Godhra): Let me now introduce him to the hon. Minister.

Shri Dinesh Singh: I know Shri Piloo Mody very well.

An hon. Member: Did the hon. Minister like his photograph?

Shri Dinesh Singh: The hon. Member had asked me what I was doing in Paris. I was there for the same thing for which he had gone abroad. But, perhaps he did not know what he had gone abroad for.

It is important for us to bear in mind that it is the UK which is joining

the Community and not India, and that the UK would naturally want to join the Community if she finds that it is to her advantage. We have always said that it is for the UK to consider whether she wants to join the Community and when she wants to join the Community, they are a sovereign nation and they have to decide on their own, but that we hope that if and when they do join the Community they would also bear in mind the close trade relations that we have between our two countries. They have considerable trade interests in this country, and we have trade interests there.

I think it was Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia who had asked me for the figures in regard to our export-import trade with the UK. The export is round about Rs. 175 crores, and the imports are a little more, being of the order of about Rs. 180 crores; the average export to the UK is about Rs. 175 crores. But as I have mentioned, it is for the UK to judge for themselves when and how they want to join the Community. It is not right to say that they have not consulted us. They have been in close touch with us. They mentioned to us that they would like to join the Community, and we offered our....

Shri Hem Barua (Mangaldai): That is not what Shri M. C. Chagla says.

Shri Dinesh Singh: I am sorry. I am saying what I know.

Shri Hem Barua: But Shri M. C. Chagla made a statement like that, that only New Zealand and Australia were consulted and India was not consulted. Shri M. C. Chagla had said that in South-East Asia.

Shri Dinesh Singh: Anyway, we have been in close touch with the U.K. They have consulted us, and we are going to hold further talks with them. From the 2nd June, they have

[Shri Dinesh Singh]

invited us, and we are sending two representatives who will hold talks with UK Government. We shall also assist them in their talks with the Community so that our interests are safe-guarded. I should also like to say that we are ourselves in touch directly with the individual members of the Community and with the Community collectively, and I mentioned earlier that because of that we had been able to get certain reductions and certain suspensions of duties and we would continue our efforts directly with the Community and try to reach better arrangements with them.

I think it was Shri Nath Pai who had asked what the disadvantages would be. It is very difficult at this stage to say what the disadvantages would actually be. Our export trade with the UK is, as I have mentioned already, of the order of Rs. 175 crores. All this is likely to be affected, because it is on preferential terms to the UK. But as and when we are able to reach agreement with the Community, it may be that we shall not suffer any disadvantage, but that will depend upon the outcome of our negotiations directly and also the negotiations which the UK will carry on with the Community where we shall be able to help and assist them.

So far as our links with the Commonwealth are concerned, it is a political matter which I would rather leave to the Foreign Minister to speak about. There is no doubt that we have had in the Commonwealth a certain preferential treatment in trade, and if that is broken then to that extent one of the important links with the Commonwealth is gone. But the political association remains in its wider context. That is a matter where, if the hon. Members so desire, I would request them to address the Foreign Minister.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): The hon. Minister is provoking us.

Shri Hem Barua: He is provoking the Members to oust Shri M. C. Chagla.

Shri Dinesh Singh: No; I do not think hon. Members will be able to oust him anyway. So, why should I make such an insinuation? It is not possible for the hon. Members to oust him. . . .

Shri Hem Barua: He may put in a word to the Prime Minister.

Shri Dinesh Singh: It is for hon. Members on my side to decide, and they all appreciate his work, and, therefore, there is no reason to oust him.

I think Shri Narendra Singh Mahida wanted to know whether we had tried to assess the views of the other members of the Commonwealth. The problems of the members of the Commonwealth are somewhat different; the problems of the Asian members are different from the problems of the African members and the Caribbean members and the problems of the Americas or the Australias. But we are aware of the problems of the Asian members and they are, somewhat, similar though there again they vary a little. I think that we shall have full co-operation in the discussions which we shall have and that they would also take a similar stand where they face similar problems.

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida (Anand): The hon. Minister has not said how many of them have agreed to our suggestions and how many of them will fall in line with us.

Shri Dinesh Singh: It is not one particular suggestion. It is a question of various suggestions concerning various commodities and various groupings as such, and they will be

with us where the groupings of the commodities in which we are interested are the groupings in which they are also interested, because obviously they also would like to have the same facilities.

It was Shri Umanath who had asked whether we were going to join the Community....

Shri Umanath (Pudukkottai): No, that was not my question. The ECM countries would be pressurising countries like ours, when we suffer these difficulties, to join the Association of Overseas territories. I wanted an assurance that under no circumstances would we join that Association of Overseas territories.

Shri Dinesh Singh: What the hon. Member asks is whether we shall accept the position of an associate nation with the community....

Shri Umanath: This particular association is an adjunct of the ECM.

Shri Nath Pai: The ex-French colonies. My hon. friend as a former Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs should be knowing this.

Shri Umanath: They are the colonies or the dependencies of the countries which become members. For instance, we are members of the Commonwealth along with Britain. If Britain joins the ECM they will pressurise us to join this particular adjunct as a member of the Commonwealth. That is my point. I want an assurance that we shall not be pressurised into that.

Shri Dinesh Singh: I quite understand the point. I was only using a technical term namely accepting an associate status. There is no proposal before us at the moment of any associate status. We are having bilateral negotiations with the individual members of the community and with the community as a whole. This will be an arrangement which we shall make with the Community without the associate status. We have not talked of the associate status....

Shri Umanath: Will Government assure this House that under no circumstances will we join as or accept the position of an associate member?

Shri Nath Pai: Will he assure us here and now?

Shri Umanath: Will he assure us here and now? Let him not keep it in the air so that in future when they pressurise us we would accept that position. I want a clear assurance to this House that under no circumstances shall we or our country accept an associate membership in this.

Shri Dinesh Singh: I can say that we are not contemplating joining it with an associate status....

Shri Nath Pai: Even under pressure or duress.

Shri Dinesh Singh: It would not be desirable for me to make any commitment for ever. Neither would the hon. Member want me to do so. He can say, of course, that he should be consulted before we do something, and we can consider that. Today, when negotiations are going on, how can we say....

Shri Umanath: In 1961, the then Finance Minister Shri Morarji Desai said that. I wanted this assurance again because I wanted to see that Government did not change their position.

From his statement now, I conclude that it is just open.

Shri Nath Pai: Do not make it worse. Leave it at that.

Shri Dinesh Singh: The hon. Member has put various words in my mouth which I did not say. Nothing is open or closed—when you are discussing matters. When you come to some conclusion, that would be the time for the House to consider. If we were going to do anything for joining associate status, obviously it would come before the House. But I said that we were not contemplating it at all. If any assurance has been given by Government, to which the hon. Member

[Shri Dinesh Singh]

referred, obviously it will be honoured. Our Government have not dishonoured any agreement.

Shri Umanath: A clever answer.

Shri Dinesh Singh: So far as the question of general interest is concerned, I would like the House to bear in mind that these are very difficult negotiations; trade and economic matters are rather technical and while my friends can and might take any opportunity they have here to question Government on political matters—there were some prefaces to questions in this regard—in so far as negotiations with other countries are concerned, negotiations in which our very vital economic interests are concerned, I would beg of the Members to give us every co-operation to let us negotiate these matters, and when the negotiations are complete, we shall come before the House. If any hon. Members wish to keep in touch with us and know what is happening, I shall very gladly do so. But it becomes rather difficult to discuss in any great detail negotiations when they are taking place.

श्री मधु लिमये : (उत्तर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, एक साथ सब प्रश्न पूछे गए इस का नतीजा यह हुआ कि कोई जानकारी नहीं हुई। एक जानकारी मैंने यह मांगी थी कि कामन मार्केट के साथ यह बातचीत कौन चला रहा है और यह अलग अलग देशों के साथ बातचीत चल रही है या कमीशन के साथ चल रही है, उस का नेतृत्व कौन कर रहा है और देश के हित की रक्षा कैसे हो रही है, इस के बारे में जानकारी मैं चाहता हूँ।

श्री दिनेश सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे दुख है कि माननीय सदस्य समय पर नहीं आये। मैंने पहले उस का जिक्र किया था, शायद वह यहाँ पर थे नहीं। मैंने यह कहा कि हमारी बातें कम्यूनिटी से भी चल रही हैं,

अलग अलग देशों से भी चल रही हैं, हमारी बातें यूनाइटेड किंगडम से भी चल रही हैं। यूनाइटेड किंगडम ने 2 जून को हमारे लोगों को बुलाया है। हमारे दो अफसर जायेंगे, उन बातों में रहेंगे उस के अलावा जैसी जरूरत पड़ेगी वैसे और लोग जायेंगे और बातें करेंगे।

Shri S. S. Kothari (Mandsaur): My simple question has not been answered. When UK applied for membership of ECM last time, they had stated that India's interests should be safeguarded. This time when they have applied, my information is that they did not insert this clause in their application. Is that so?

Shri Dinesh Singh: I have incorporated in the body of my main statement in verbatim what they have said about it. I would beg of the hon. Member to go through it.

15.25 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education (Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad): On behalf of Dr. Triguna Sen, I move:

"That in pursuance of Section 31(2)(k) and 32(1) and (4) of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Council established under Section 31(1) of the said Act, for the triennium commencing from the date of election".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Sections 31(2)(k) and 32(1) and (4) of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among them-