

श्री बागड़ी : गलत इलजाम लगा रहे हैं ।

श्री मधु लिमये : गलत बयानों कर रहे हैं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर ।

श्री बृजराज सिंह (बरेली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे ऊपर आरोप लगाया गया है, हमारी पार्टी पर आरोप लगाया गया है, हमें एक क्लेरिफिकेशन तो पूछ लेने दीजिये ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : हमारी पार्टी पर लांछन लगाया गया है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं सवालों की इजाजत दे सकता हूँ, बहस की नहीं दे सकता हूँ ।

श्री बृजराज सिंह : कम से कम एक क्लेरिफिकेशन तो ले लेने दीजिये ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : और नहीं ।

17.58 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. STRIKE BY NURSES

The Minister of Health and family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): On the 25th October, 1966, one Miss P. David, a Sister in the Safdarjang Hospital was alleged to have handed over one gallon tin of dettol in a bucket covered by a duster to a sweeper to be taken to her room in the Nurses Hostel. On interrogation by the Chowkidar the sweeper informed him that he was carrying the bucket under instructions from Sister David. Since theft of Government property was suspected, the matter was immediately reported to the Medical Superintendent and the Vigilance Officer who called for the concerned Sister and made certain enquiries. Sister David gave a written statement that she was taking the dettol for cleaning her bath-room in the hostel. The Superintendent of the

Hospital reported the matter to the police as has been done in the past in such cases. After making enquiries the police took Sister David into custody on 31st October, 1966. She was released on bail the next day.

On 2nd November at about 10.00 a.m. the president and secretary of the Safdarjang Hospital Nurses Association informed the Medical Superintendent that the nurses would go on an indefinite strike from the 3rd November, 1966 to press their following demands:

- (1) Judicial inquiry must be carried out why the hospital authorities failed to take departmental action against nursing sister P. David.
- (2) Resignation of administrative officer and vigilance officer who surpassed their responsibilities.
- (3) why legal action was not taken against the person who was carrying the bucket and Dettol tin;
- (4) thorough inquiry must be made against the chowkidar who reported the matter to the vigilance officer; question also as to why the chowkidar has been given extraordinary power to move about in the hospital premises specially in the nurses' hostel without restriction, and by whose authority.

After that, the nurses had a meeting with the Health Secretary and they had a meeting with me also. Misunderstandings and misapprehensions were removed.

The nurses went on strike on the 3rd November, without giving adequate notice as required under the Industrial Disputes Act. During the strike, necessary arrangements were made for running the hospital and to avoid inconvenience to the patients. The nurses in some of the other hospitals in the city also observed a token strike on 4th November in

[Dr. Sushila Nayar]

sympathy with the nurses of the Safdarjang Hospital.

After their meeting with the Superintendent and the Health Secretary and finally with me, the nurses in the Safdarjang Hospital have withdrawn their strike and have gone back to duty since this morning.

I wish to compliment the staff of the hospital, the doctors and the others who saw to it, that there was no inconvenience to the patients and also the nurses who, in spite of their strike, sent one nurse in each ward and when there were many casualties on the 7th, they sent two nurses to the wards to see that the patients were not neglected or inconvenienced.

18 hrs.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (देवास) : श्रीमन्, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह बात सही है कि इस नर्स के बारे में जो घटना पायी गई इस की एन्क्वायरी उस दफ्तर में की गई या वहाँ के स्टाफ से की गई है ? यदि की गई है तो उन्होंने क्या रिपोर्ट दी इस सम्बन्ध में ?

डा० सुशीला नायर: श्रीमन्, मैं ने बताया कि क्या कुछ एन्क्वायरी वगैरह पुलिस ने की थी, उस के ऊपर उन्होंने एक्शन लिया था। अभी सारा मामला जब शांत हो रहा है तो उसमें क्या उन्होंने ने कहा क्या नहीं कहा इस सब में जाने से कोई विशेष लाभ मैं नहीं देखती।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : बात को छिपाया जा रहा है। मैं ने सीधा प्रश्न पूछा था कि वहाँ के स्टाफ ने पुलिस को क्या बताया उस के बारे में माननीय मंत्री जी बताने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि स्टाफ ने एन्क्वायरी में क्या बताया ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर वह उसमें आराम से फैसला हो रहा है तो हम कोई ऐसी बात कर जिससे और झगड़ा पैदा हो वह

ठीक नहीं है, इसलिए वह आप से अपील कर रही हैं। . . . (व्यवधान) आप से कह रही हैं कि इससे फायदा नहीं होगा। आप इस पर ज़िद करेंगे तो और झगड़ा शुरू होगा। उससे फायदा क्या होगा।

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): The question of demands of the nurses has been reported to the Ministry not since the 3rd of November, but for a very long time they have been putting forward their demands. May I know what attempts the Health Minister, whom I complimented on resolving this deadlock, and the Health Ministry have been making all these days to consider those demands and to take some action and why did they allow the situation to deteriorate so that the nurses should have had to have recourse to a strike?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: May I tell the hon. Member that this situation had nothing to do with any general demands? Whatever their general demands or difficulties, the Ministry has been looking into them.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What are those general demands?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: This statement does not relate to any general demands. All that I wish to state is that the Ministry has taken very good care to see that the conditions improve. The nurses themselves have acknowledged that their conditions of service have improved. We would like to improve them still further and we are trying to do so according to our resources.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What are the general demands?

Mr. Speaker: She says they do not come in this statement.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Since the strike is over and an amicable settlement has been reached, I want to know whether an assurance has been given to the nurses that

there will be no victimisation because of participation in the strike.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: The hon. Member is working all the time in a different set up; his mind thinks in terms of victimisation. Government do not think or act in terms of victimisation. We think in terms of serving the interests of our patients and the country.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I put this question because generally after a strike, there is victimisation. I do not know why this lady is allergic to me. She is imputing motives to me....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He should be the best person to know. Shri A. P. Sharma.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: She has a bad temper, and we have a bad temper.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Your reply was very good.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: She should not always take advantage of being a lady.

Shri A. P. Sharma (Buxar): What were the causes that led to this illegal strike? Have Government tried to understand their problems as to what were the causes for the strike before they launched upon this illegal course of action?

Mr. Speaker: She has decried in detail the causes.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: There was an alleged theft, and the whole trouble arose out of that. It has nothing to do with their general demands.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अद्यक्ष महोदय,
यह मदन को गुमराह किया जा रहा है . . .

Mr. Speaker: She is denying that this has anything to do with their general demands. Again and again she has said that.

Shri D. C. Sharma: We cannot accept her statement. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: In this manner we cannot proceed.

Shri A. P. Sharma: What were the causes?

Mr. Speaker: She has said it twice.

Shri Vasudevan Nair (Ambalapuruzha): There were reports in the newspapers that the representatives of the Delhi Nurses Association waited upon the Minister—I am referring to the other hospitals not the Safdarjung hospital—before they decided to go on strike, to have a meeting with her and to represent their grievances, and it was reported in the newspapers that they waited and waited and no reply came from the Minister, and when she was prepared to meet them at midnight or so they had dispersed and the strike call was given. I should like to know whether the Minister was standing on false prestige at that time and refused to meet the representatives of the Nurses Association, and that is the cause of the strike.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: The information of the hon. Member is completely wrong.

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): I am not putting a question, but I want to draw your attention to a serious matter which perhaps has escaped your attention. May I in all humility say that you should not have permitted Mr. Limaye to say about Mr. Pandey that he was Atulya Ghosh's man. Tomorrow somebody may be called a Chinese agent and another man may be called a Russian agent.

Mr. Speaker: He need not rake it up now.

Shri Joachim Alva: You ought to strike it off the record since he called Mr. Pandey Atulya Ghosh's man; that is unfair.

श्री राधे लाल ग्यास (उज्जैन) : इतना ही नहीं, उन्होंने यहाँ तक कहा कि यह कातिल है, कतल करने वाले हैं। इस तरह की स्पीचें

[श्री राघे लाल व्यास]

होती हैं। अभी किशन पटनायक माहव कह रहे थे . . . (व्यवधान) . . . ग्राप ग्रांडर नहीं रेस्टोर कर पा रहे हैं . . . (व्यवधान) . . . मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है कि यह व्यवस्था आप करे कि कोई आदमी खड़ा तो हो जाय लेकिन जब तक आप की इजाजत न हो, उस को बोलना नहीं चाहिए। यह व्यवस्था जब तक आप नहीं करेंगे तब तक यह ग्रांडर नहीं चलेगा। मेरा आपसे नम्रतापूर्वक निवेदन है कि इस ग्रांडर को एन्फोर्स कीजिए कि खड़े होने का अधिकार है लेकिन जब तक आप उसका नाम नहीं पुकारेंगे चाहे वह इधर का मेम्बर हो चाहे उधर का हो, अपना ध्यापण शुरू नहीं कर सकता और अगर भाषण शुरू करे तो उस को स्टेट अवे बाहर कर देना चाहिए। . . . (व्यवधान)

Mr. Speaker: There ought to be some limit. This cannot be carried on in this manner.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : (फर्रुखाबाद) : इनकी तरफ से हमेशा लम्बी स्पीचें होती हैं। मेरी तरफ से आपने देखा होगा जो नियमों के अन्तर्गत व्यवधान करने का हक है वही हम करते ने। मैं खाली इन को कातिलों का दल कहा। मैं ने इन को ब्रह्मकुमारियों का और राधास्वामियों का दल नहीं कहा।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप को तो यह हक है कि आप जब चाहें और जो चाहें कहते चले जायें और अगर आप को कुछ कहा जाय तो आप दूसरे को कहेंगे कि आप को कुछ समझ नहीं है। अब आप को किस तरह से कहा जाय कि इस तरह से न करें, इस तरह से बचल न दें।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : मेरे हाथ में बन्दूक नहीं है और इन के हाथ में बन्दूक है। यह फर्क आप हमेशा ध्याम में रखें।

18.09 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE.

DROUGHT AND SCARCITY CONDITIONS IN UTTAR PRADESH AND BIHAR

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I call the attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The acute drought and scarcity conditions in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar."

The Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri C. Subramaniam): Before I make a statement on the subject, I would like to clarify certain facts in view of what happened this morning with regard to this calling attention notice because I was accused of failing to reply to your letter.

Mr. Speaker: That was clarified, I myself did it.

Shri C. Subramaniam: I have gone into the whole thing, and it has left a bad impression that I was negligent in replying to you.

Mr. Speaker: I said on the 7th we asked you, and on the 8th we said. . . .

Shri C. Subramaniam: Even on the 7th I find it was night, after 7 O'clock the preliminary notice had been received, and by 1 O'clock yesterday, before the admitted notice was brought to my notice, I had been called upon to make a statement today at 6 O'clock. Shri Kamath used the words: "It was a dirty trick". As a matter of fact I got the direction from the Speaker that I should make the statement at 6 O'clock . . . (Interruptions).