

17.05 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE. CROSSING OF THE FLOOR BY LEGISLATORS

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah (Nandyal): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir with your permission, I would like to move the following Resolution....

श्री राम सेवक यादव (बाराबंकी) : मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है । अगर माननीय सदस्य अपने प्रस्ताव का नाम रख दें कांग्रेस बचाओ तो हम लोग उस का सहर्ष समर्थन करेंगे ।

श्री पं० बंकरुसुब्बाय्या : पहले आप अपने एस० एस० पी० को बचा लीजिये ।

श्री राम सेवक यादव : 1957 से आप लोक सभा में हैं । पहले कभी इस की चिन्ता नहीं हुई । आज जब कांग्रेस जाने लगी है तब आप को चिन्ता हुई है । इसी लिये इस प्रस्ताव का नाम कांग्रेस बचाओ होना चाहिये ।

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: I move:

"This House is of opinion that a high level Committee consisting of representatives of political Parties and constitutional experts be set up immediately by Government to consider the problem of legislators changing their allegiance from one Party to another and their frequent crossing of the floor in all its aspects and recommends to the Government the evolving of a special machinery and the taking of effective measures by suitable legislation to arrest this growing phenomenon which is assuming alarming proportions so that the country can function on sound and healthy lines of parliamentary democracy."

While commending this Resolution to the House....

Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta (Delhi Sadar): You are closing the doors of the Congress.

Shri Piloo Mody (Godhra): This hypocrisy is nauseating. (Interruption).

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Why is Mr. Piloo Mody, the Chairman of the Bhim Club, so very impatient?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let him continue his speech. Mr. Mody, yesterday, you had crossed the floor and now you are on this side. I am not sure about you. (Interruption).

Shri Piloo Mody: Why do you think I am objecting to this?

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: I request the hon. Members to hear me with patience.

Sir, this is a very important Resolution. This matter is engaging the serious attention of not only the Members of Parliament but also the constitutional experts and the people who believe in healthy parliamentary democratic system functioning in this country.

After the Fourth General Elections, a new phenomena has emerged with all its political implications. (Interruption). The Congress which held sway for the last twenty years.... (Interruption). I do not like this running commentary.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Piloo Mody: This is not a serious matter at all. If you want to discuss this sort of a thing, by all means, you do it. But let us enjoy it in the process.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: You will get an opportunity to speak. Let him continue his speech.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: After the Fourth General Elections, the Congress Party which held sway for the last twenty years over the entire country, except in two or three States, and at the Centre, had to be content with an absolute majority in only certain States, like, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mysore, Gujarat,

[Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah]

Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir and the Union Territories of Pondichery, Manipur, Tripura and Nagaland. In the rest of the States, except in Kerala, the Congress has emerged as the single largest political party....

17.09 hrs.

[SHRI G. S. DHILLON in the Chair]

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : यहाँ तो नाम ही नहीं है कांग्रेस का । आप दिल्ली की बात क्यों करते हैं ?

17.09 hrs.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Delhi also. Even in Madras, the D.M.K. Party with the help of a super magician, Shri Rajagopalachari, had entered into an electoral alliance.... (Interruption).

Shri Sonavane (Pondharpur): Shri Mody's money is jingling.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: They succeeded, to some extent, to avoid the multi-cornered contest and the D.M.K. Party came into absolute power there.

Shri S. Kandappan (Mettur): A healthy political strategy.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: This phenomenon clearly shows that in most of the States where the Congress has been returned in absolute majority....

Shri S. Kandappan: Doubtful majority.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: people had showed their positive inclination towards the Congress regime for the coming five years. In places where the Congress.. (Interruptions).

Shri Hanumanthaiya (Bangalore): May I appeal to you? The interference by some Members is becoming rather very irksome. I would appeal to the hon. gentlemen to observe some

kind of restraint when another colleague is addressing. Even jokes overplayed look ridiculous.

Shri Piloo Mody: Don't you think that legislation should have the same sort of responsibility?

Shri Hanumanthaiya: I would appeal to you, Sir, to control this interference.

Mr. Chairman: Let the hon. Members not interrupt him when he is speaking. He has just begun his speech.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: As I was pointing out to you, in all the States except Kerala and Madras, the people may not have shown positive inclination towards the Congress but they did not repose their confidence in the other political parties as the Congress has been returned as the largest single Party. That, our friends cannot deny. It has clearly demonstrated, it is an ample proof to show, that the people by and large—I mean, the electorate—have still confidence in the policies and programmes of the Congress; maybe, they might have been unhappy with some of the leaders of the Congress Party who have failed to implement the election manifesto and the basic policies of the Congress Party.

Shri Piloo Mody: Which basic policy?

Shri S. Kandappan: He can discuss this in his Parliamentary Party meeting and not here.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Soon after the Ministries were formed in all these States, in West Bengal and Bihar, one significant factor had emerged and that is, there again the political parties had to form the Ministries under the leadership of erstwhile Congressman, Shri Ajoy Mukerjee in West Bengal and Shri Mahamaya Prasad Sinha in Bihar.

That clearly shows that still the Congress and the Congress ideologies could very well be acceptable to the electorate, and that is the very reason.... (Interruption).

श्री राम सेवक यादव : रावण के सत्यानाश और हत्या के लिए विभीषण की जरूरत होती है ।

श्री शशि भूषण बाजपेयी (सांगन) : क्या यह रामलीला है ? क्या माननीय सदस्य मेघनाद बने हुए हैं ?

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Afterwards, a new era has begun, the era of Mr. Rao Birendra Singh, Mr. Charan Singh and Mr. Govind Narain Singh, and with this era, the era of defections has also started.

Shri P. Viswambharan (Trivandrum): Who is going to defect at the Centre?

An hon. Member: Mr. Chavan:

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: These defections have taken place on a large scale basis. It is not as though individual legislators have defected to one Party or the other as it was happening some years back. Here the people who have been elected on particular programmes and policies and on a particular symbol which has won the confidence of the electorate, have defected on a large scale. Now, what is the number of defectors? The number of defectors from the Congress to the other political parties is 100, and there has been the reverse process also; from other parties, 64 have defected to the Congress. Here, I want to highlight a particular point. Out of these 100 defectors, the majority of them have found place on the Ministerial Benches.

श्री पीएल मोदी : क्या कांग्रेस पार्टी ने अशोक मेहता को मिनिस्टर नहीं बनाया ?

श्री राम सेवक यादव : क्या कांग्रेस पार्टी ने गैदासिंह को मिनिस्टर नहीं बनाया ?

श्री हुकम सिंह भकाली पार्टी से चुन कर यहां आए थे, लेकिन उन को कांग्रेस पार्टी में शामिल कर के डिप्युटी स्पीकर बना दिया गया ।

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: In your State of Punjab, Sir, all the defectors have found a place in the Cabinet barring one or two exceptions. So, I would submit that the Congress cannot be accused of that. None of these defectors, whether we call them defectors or anything else, have not found a place in the Cabinets. I stand firmly on my ground when I say that none of these 64 defectors....

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंगेर) : क्यों नहीं एक्यूज कर सकते ? मैं इस सदन में खड़े होकर एक्यूज करता हूँ कि कांग्रेस पार्टी ने टी० प्रकाशम को मुख्य मंत्री के पद का लालच, प्रलोभन दे कर प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी से अलग किया । माननीय सदस्य कहते हैं कि कांग्रेस को एक्यूज नहीं कर सकते । क्यों नहीं कर सकते ? मैं एक्यूज कर रहा हूँ सब लोगों की तरफ से ।

श्री रणधीर सिंह (रोहतक) : ये लोग हरियाणा में हमारे सोलह आदमी खा गए, पंजाब में हमारे सोलह आदमी खा गए ।

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Shri Madhu Limaye was not here earlier and, therefore, he has missed my point. I am narrating the events after the Fourth General Elections.

श्री शशि भूषण बाजपेयी: आपरचूनिज्म के टेकेदार डा० लोहिया हैं, और कोई नहीं है ।

श्री मधु लिमये : डा० लोहिया का नाम क्यों लेते हैं ? इन सब का मुकाबला करने के लिए मैं अकेला ही काफी हूँ ।

श्री शशि भूषण बाजपेयी : यह डा० लोहिया के चमचे हैं, और क्या है ?

श्री राम सेवक यादव : सभापति महोदय, मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है । मैं एक पायटं ब्राऊ आर्डर उठाना चाहता हूँ । (व्यवधान)

Shri Ranga (Srikakulam): When a Member rises on a point of order, the Chair has no option but to hear him.

Mr. Chairman: There is no point of order.

Shri Ranga: He says 'Vyavastha'. It means point of order.

Shri Piloo Mody: 'Vyavastha' means point of order.

Shri Randhir Singh: How can he raise a point of order now? What is his point of order?

Shri Sonavane: What is the point of order?

श्री राम सेवक यादव : मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि 1948 में कांग्रेस सोशलिस्ट पार्टी के चौदह सदस्य कांग्रेस से अलग हुए। तब उन्होंने एसेम्बली की सदस्यता से इस्तीफा दे कर फिर चुनाव लड़ा था। यह है उन का कैरेक्टर, यह है उन का राजनैतिक आचार। आज ये लोग हमें आचार-संहिता पढ़ाने आए हैं।

सभापति महोदय : यह पॉइंट ऑफ़ आर्डर नहीं है।

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma (Khammam): This is not a party problem at all.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): May I submit to you that this is ridiculing the procedure of the House? When an hon. Member knows very well that he is not raising a point of order, he still gets up and says that he has a point of order; I submit that this is an abuse of the procedure of the House. He should not be allowed to do so.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: I can very well understand the difficulty of the Members belonging to the Opposition.

Shri S. Kandappan: This is to protect democracy and not to protect his own party. The intention of the Mover as he said in his speech towards the beginning is to preserve and build up healthy democratic conventions in this country, but he has proceeded to speak in the interests of his own party; that is not the purpose of the resolution.

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma: May I just say one thing?

Shri Piloo Mody: She knows the point of order?

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma: I want to appeal to hon. Members....

Shri Piloo Mody: I would not allow her to speak without a point of order.

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma: I want to appeal to hon. Members.... that it is not only from this side that this suggestion has been made. Even Shri Bal Raj Madhok has written a letter to the Congress President. I think even in other countries where there have been such defections, they have come to some understanding. History tells us that they have come to some understanding with the agreement of all the parties. So, why should my hon. friends not be patient to listen to the hon. Mover?

Shri S. Kandappan: He is trying to defend the Congress Party. It is not proper.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: It is only a statement of fact which I have made, which became evident after the fourth general election. I am telling the facts. There is no exaggeration in it. I have been quoting figures to show that defections from the Congress on a large scale have gone on on certain motivations. I was basing my argument on that, that the defections that have taken place were based on that. Can he deny that fact?

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : यह कंडोलेंस प्रस्ताव रख रहे हैं क्या ?

Shri Piloo Mody: This obituary should not be allowed here.

Shri J. B. Kripalani (Guna): May I suggest that the object of this Resolution is to establish healthy conventions in this country? I never thought that the object of the Resolution was to blame one party or the other, who were responsible for introducing this kind of stealing of Members, whether the Congress or the Opposition parties. The thing is that people have, as a matter of fact, for purposes which are best known to them and generally for selfish purposes, left one party or the other to join another party. The whole object of the Mover is to bring about healthy conventions so as to see that such things do not take place. For that he need not praise the Congress or blame the Opposition parties. I am only requesting him that controversial matters need not be introduced in this discussion. Let us see what is to be done to bring about healthy conventions in our political life. That is all.

श्री शिवनारायण (वस्ती) : दरोदीवार पर लिखे हैं इनके कारनामे और हमको उपदेश कर रहे हैं ।

Shri P. Venkatasubbalah: With due respect to Acharyaji, my intention was never to hurl any charges against anybody.

Shri Piloo Mody: Only his language.

Shri S. Kandappan: Your intention is different....

Shri P. Venkatasubbalah: Let him please hear me.

Shri S. Kandappan: You do not claim anything for the Congress?

श्री कंबर साल गुप्त : मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ । जहाँ तक अपोजीशन का सवाल है बहुत सावरायटी से हम सुन रहे हैं । देखिए, आचार्य जी खुद जर्मनखोर्बा हैं, सुचेता जी उधर चली गईं, उसके बाव भी

कितनी सावरायटी की बात उन्होंने की है.... (व्यवधान) ।

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma: How can you blame her? She is independent.

Shri P. Venkatasubbalah: This is an unhealthy phenomenon in the functioning of parliamentary democracy.

सभापति महोदय : यह हाउस की डिगनिटी के अनुरूप नहीं है कि एक मेम्बर को बोलने न दिया जाय । आप की भी बारी आयेगी । उन को बोलने दीजिए । जब आप की बारी आयेगी तब आप भी कह लेना ।

Shri Ranga: Let him address himself to the Resolution.

Shri P. Venkatasubbalah: This has attracted the attention of politicians and also many people who are vitally interested in the working of parliamentary democracy. Let me just quote a statement made by the Prime Minister.

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इन का कोटेशन आने के पहले मैं एक बुनियादी व्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठा रहा हूँ ।

यह बहस चल नहीं सकती है, इस के बारे में मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है बुनियादी बातों को लेकर, मैं नियम । वगैरह सब बता रहा हूँ । (व्यवधान) अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि नियम संख्या और संविधान की दफा बताए बिना मैं कभी व्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठाता नहीं । इसलिए आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है ।

श्री मधु लिमये : आप अध्यक्ष नहीं हैं ? अध्यक्ष महोदय वहाँ बैठ हुए हैं..... (व्यवधान) अध्यक्ष महोदय, दस मिनट आप इन्हें शोर कर लेने दीजिये तब मैं बोलूंगा . . .

Mr. Chairman: Two minutes are left now. Let him finish his point of order within a minute.

श्री मधु लिमये : मैं जब बोलूंगा तब ये शोर न करें ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे यह गुजारिश करनी है, आप से कि इस संविधान के तहत यह सदन काम करता है इस संविधान के दायरे में, आईन के दायरे में, हम लोग काम करते हैं। इस के अधीन इस प्रस्ताव पर बहस नहीं हो सकती है। अब मैं बता रहा हूँ क्यों? अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस प्रस्ताव की जो भाषा है वह हमारे नियमों के खिलाफ है और आईन के खिलाफ है ।

Shri P. G. Sen (Purnea): It is too late to raise a point of order. The Mover has been allowed to speak.

श्री मधु लिमये : मैं किसी वक्त भी उठा सकता हूँ। आप 376 धारा देख लीजिए नियमों की। उस में लिखा है कि नियमों और संविधान के तहत व्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठाया जा सकता है।

श्री फ० गो० सेन : तो पहले क्यों नहीं उठाया? अब उन को बोलने नहीं दे रहे हैं।

श्री मधु लिमये : अगर आप सीखना चाहते हैं तो मैं आप को पढ़ाने के लिए तैयार हूँ। आज शाम को आ जाइए। नहीं तो आप सुनिए। (धड़कान) अध्यक्ष महोदय, अगर वह पढ़ना चाहते हैं तो मैं पढ़ाने के लिए तैयार हूँ।

Shri Bandhir Singh: Let him finish his speech. Then you raise the point of order.

सभापति महोदय : आप बोलिए ।

श्री मधु लिमये : पर जब वह सुनेंगे तभी तो, बोलूंगा ?

सभापति महोदय : आप मुझे ऐंजेल कीजिए ।

श्री मधु लिमये : तो आप उन्हें नियंत्रित कीजिए ।

मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा था कि आप इस प्रस्ताव की भाषा देख लीजिए। इस में वह कहते हैं कि उधर से छोड़ कर इधर आना और यहां से उठ कर वहां जाना, फ्रांसिग दि पलोर, इस के बारे में यह प्रस्ताव है। अब मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि आप संविधान की धारा 81 और 82 देख लीजिए। हमारे आईन का आधार है

Shri Amrit Nahata (Barmer): I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member is already on a point of order. Unless that point of order is dealt with, there cannot be another point of order.

श्री मधु लिमये : हमारे संविधान का, इस लोक सभा का आधार है लोक प्रतिनिधित्व। इसलिए यहां जितने सदस्य हैं वह अपने-अपने जो चुनाव के क्षेत्र हैं उस में जो मतवाता रहते हैं उनके प्रतिनिधि हैं।

श्री रणधीर सिंह : साहब, यह जो बोल रहे हैं, जितना टाइम ले रहे हैं वह सब इन की स्पीच से काट लेना ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : आन ए प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर।

श्री मधु लिमये : प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर पर प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर नहीं होता (धड़कान) अगर आप बीच में टॉकेंगे नहीं तो मैं दो मिनट में खतम कर दूंगा ।

Shri Bandhir Singh: You are a Lawyer. What is this point of order?

Mr. Chairman: Let me listen. I have my own discretion.

श्री मधु लिमये : मैं केवल भाक्षेपों को गिनाता हूँ। मेरे जो ऐतराज हैं, उन को गिनाता हूँ। धारा 81 में कहा गया है कि :

"The House of the People shall consist of not more than 500 Members chosen by direct election from territorial constituencies in the States."

और एक बात कही गई है कि वुनाव क्षेत्र और लोक संख्या का सम्बन्ध है। यह जो प्रतिनिधि है वह.....

Shri Randhir Singh: State Assemblies also, not only Parliament.

श्री मधु लिमये : मैं यही कह रहा हूँ। अभी विधान सभा की चर्चा करने से क्या फायदा है ?

Mr. Chairman: If you do not allow him to continue from this side and if in turn they do not allow you to continue from that side, the proceedings of the House cannot go on in this manner. It is below the dignity of this House... (Interruptions). The hon. Member has based his objections on certain articles in the Constitution. Unless he reads them I cannot formulate my opinion about this. So, please do not interrupt him. Now, we will take up the point of order next time.

श्री मधु लिमये : मैं दो मिनट से ज्यादा नहीं चाहता।

Mr. Chairman: Why not next time?

श्री मधु लिमये : तब तो प्रस्ताव ही खतम हो जायेगा।

आप अपना निर्णय सुरक्षित रखिये।

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): Since it has been raised, let him take a few more minutes and finish it... (Interruptions).

श्री मधु लिमये : आप प्वाइंट आफ ऑर्डर को कैसे पोस्टपोन कर सकते हैं ?

Mr. Chairman: In my own opinion, without prejudice to either side, there is a lot of force in this point of order and unless we study the point of order, we cannot decide upon it. I say this without prejudice to any side. We will have time to study this next time when we taken this up.

Shri Piloo Mody: He remains on his legs for three months.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Will the discussion be continued next time?

Mr. Chairman: Yes. You will be considered to be on your legs; you will speak next time.

17.34 hrs.

STARVATION DEATHS*

Shri Sradhakar Supakar (Sambalpur): Mr. Chairman, Arising out of the answer given on the 30th May, 1967 to starred question No. 152, I put a supplementary question as follows:

"Certain deaths on account of starvation were published in statements of some ministers. Has the Government verified whether the Ministers actually made the statement or not?"

Shri Annasahib Shinde replied as follows:

"As already mentioned by the hon. Minister we referred the statement to the various state Governments but no state Government has so far submitted any information which indicates that there had been deaths due to starvation."

Before that date and after, many ministers of the different states have made statements—not merely ministers but also prominent public men have made statements about starvation deaths. I will be making a refer-

*Half-an-hour discussion.