

**Shri K. K. Basu:** He has just begun.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am not trying to hustle him. He may continue his speech tomorrow. Now we will take up the other business.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

TWENTY-SECOND REPORT

**Shri Altekar (North Satara):** I beg to move:

"That this House agrees with the Twenty-second Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 7th March, 1955."

It is a simple report, only allotting time for the resolutions coming here for discussion today, and the time is stated in the report. I commend it for the acceptance of the House.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Twenty-second Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 7th March, 1955."

*The motion was adopted.*

RESOLUTION RE. CORPORATION  
FOR BROADCASTING

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now, regarding the resolution moved by Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha on the 25th February, the discussion had concluded and just when he was called upon to reply there was no time and the House was adjourned on that day. Now he will reply to the debate.

**The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar):** The discussion on this motion ended as the Prime Minister was going to speak on that day in reply to the debate on the President's Address. If with the permission of the Mover I might be allowed to take a couple of minutes now, I shall be grateful.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There is no question of the Mover. The Mover

has no option in the matter. I will allow the hon. Minister.

**Shri Altekar (North Satara):** I may be allowed to clarify the position. Fifteen minutes are allowed for it because the hon. Minister stated that he would require three or four minutes, and ten minutes were left for the Mover to reply.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am not able to follow. When does the hon. Minister want to speak?

**Dr. Keskar:** I might clarify. I was speaking on the previous day when the discussion concluded, and at that time the Prime Minister was to reply to the debate on the President's Address. Suddenly we concluded, we thought voting would take place immediately. But as time was being given to the Mover to reply, it was said that it would be postponed. Now, since there is time, I want to clarify one or two matters.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Yes, he may go on.

**Dr. Keskar:** I do not want to take much time and take away the time which my hon. friend would like to have to give his reply.

I could not reply then to the point made by Shri S. N. Das who unfortunately is not here in the House. The position is this. The All India Radio at present is a government department. Parliament has a machinery for examining and for going into the working of all the departments of Government. And if certainly the Estimates Committee, which is the Parliament's organ for going regularly into the accounts and the working of these departments, finds that there is something wrong or the working is not good, it is entitled to and it does recommend things to be done. And I think it is not possible, neither is it desirable in my opinion, to have a sort of committee that he suggests for doing this work. The particular work would have been done by the Estimates Committee. And hon. Members had the benefit of

[Dr. Keskar]

having the Estimates Committee's Report on that very day.

One point regarding this rather intrigued me. Because Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha and one other friend mentioned—they made a great point of it—that the Estimates Committee's Report presented to the House that day contained seventy-two different recommendations for the improvement of the A.I.R. I think that Members do not expect the Estimates Committee to issue standard certificates to the departments that they are working well. They are there to suggest improvements, and if there are any defects or if there is anything wrong they say there is something wrong and it should be rectified. And if the Committee suggests improvements it does not mean that on the whole the department has not been working well. I might express here my appreciation of the way in which the Estimates Committee has gone into this matter, and I am also grateful for its appreciation of the working of the A.I.R. in general. It is the duty of the Committee to suggest improvements. Improvement is a continuous process. And even after carrying out the improvements suggested there would be room for improvement still. And these improvements will continuously go on. Therefore it should not be taken when the Estimates Committee suggest some improvements in the A.I.R. or in any other department that it means that they condemn the working of the department. I think it is a wrong way of interpreting their recommendations and a wrong way of considering the functions of the Estimates Committee.

Sir, I do not feel that any such committee as the one suggested is called for when the most important Committee of the House has been going into the working of the department and it has seen it thoroughly.

There has always been a quotation about the British Broadcasting Corporation. Now, if we look very careful-

ly into the reports regarding the Commissions that have been appointed about the B.B.C., the main quarrel has always been—and that quarrel has necessitated the appointments of the Commissions—that there has been a group in the House of Commons which has always been pressing that the monopoly given to the B.B.C., regarding broadcasting might be taken away. And it has been mainly the commercial interests that have been trying to take away the monopoly. There has been kind of periodical pressure, and that has led to the appointment of the Commissions; and the Commissions used to recommend that the monopoly should remain.

So, really speaking, it is not a kind of check, because there is an Estimates Committee in the British Parliament also which looks into the working of it. It was for a specific purpose that it used to be done, and I personally do not think there is any useful purpose going to be served by the sort of committee that he has suggested.

ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंहा (मुजफ्फरपुर उत्तर-पश्चिम) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस का कुछ उत्तर देने से पहले मैं मंत्री महोदय से एक बात का स्पष्टीकरण चाहता हूँ। पीछे जवाहरलाल नेहरू ने सन् १९४५ में कहा था कि वे हिन्दुस्तान में एक सेमी अटानोमस बाडी की तरह की चीज चाहते हैं। माननीय मंत्री डा० क्लेकर ने भी यह कहा था कि दो तीन साल बाद वह समय आयेगा जब हम कारपोरेशन को सम्बन्ध में हम विचार करेंगे और हम रीडियो को स्वावलम्बी होने की उम्मीद करते हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस बीच मैं इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही हुई है और कब ऐसा समय आयेगा।

Dr. Keskar: Firstly, I might say that the Prime Minister has never said that he thinks that a Corporation alone will serve the purpose. Corporation is something, and I also said that I have no objection to a Corporation.....

Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha: I may quote the language of the Prime

Minister. He said:

"It would be better if we had a semi-autonomous Corporation, under, of course, Government, with the policy controlled by Government." This is what he said.

**Dr. Keskar:** Yes, Sir, it is better. That does not mean that it is going to be done today. As I said, I have no objection also. I personally feel that a Corporation would as a matter of fact serve a better purpose, because Government will, like the other Corporations, run it, and there will be no parliamentary interference. Because in running a Corporation the methods are different. It is semi-autonomous. The question whether we should have a semi-autonomous body which will function better will certainly be kept under careful consideration by Government. But I say this is in the interest of the Parliament. For me it would be much better if there is a Corporation because I would be able to run it without much interference from Parliament. It should not be considered that I am thinking in my own interest of suggesting that there should not be a Corporation.

**ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह :** उस दिशा में आप क्या कर रहे हैं ।

**उपाध्यक्ष महाशय :** यदि जानरबल मेंबर बोलना चाहते हैं तो बोल सकते हैं ।

**Shri D. C. Sharma (Hoshiarpur):** May I know what is the difference between a semi-autonomous body and a Corporation?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Hon. Members have had the experience of the Damodar Valley Corporation. Once the money of the State is given away to the Corporation, Parliament ceases to have any control. The hon. Member may continue.

**ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह :** मेरे प्रस्ताव के विरुद्ध जिन माननीय सदस्यों ने कुछ भी कहा है उसमें मुझे कोई सार नजर नहीं आया, उसमें कोई तथ्य नजर नहीं आया । माननीय शर्मा जी ने कहा कि मैं किसी तरह की कमिटी

बनाने के पक्ष में नहीं हूँ क्योंकि जिस किसी कमिटी ने सरकार को अपनी रिपोर्ट दी उस पर कुछ भी अमल सरकार द्वारा नहीं किया गया । इस वास्ते वे कोई कमिटी बनाये जाने के पक्ष में नहीं हैं । मैं शर्मा जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उनकी बात का कमी भी सरकार पर कोई असर हुआ है और यदि नहीं हुआ तो वे आगे से ऐसी गलती न करें ।

**श्री डी० सी० शर्मा :** मेरी बात का बहुत असर हुआ है । मैं नजरलिस्टों के बारे में कहा था और उन्होंने एक बिल भी पास कर दिया है ।

**ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह :** मैं समझता हूँ कि यह आपके कहने पर नहीं हुआ बल्कि जो सिफारिश सरकार को की गई थी उसपर इस ने आचरण किया है । आपके कहने का सरकार पर कोई असर नहीं पड़ता अतः उनको आगे से बोलने की गलती नहीं करनी चाहिए ।

दूसरी बात शर्मा जी ने यह कही थी कि-आज हमें जो अस्तित्वा मिले हुए हैं, पार्लियामेंट को जो अस्तित्वा मिले हुए हैं उन अस्तित्वाओं को हमें किसी दूसरे के जिम्मे नहीं करना चाहिए । जो सदस्य यहां पर मौजूद हैं वे जानते हैं कि जो हक उनको मिले हुए हैं जो कारपोरेशन बना दिये जाने पर क्या उन्होंने अपने अधिकार कारपोरेशन को नहीं दे दिये । यह तो एक बड़े आदमी की सी बात हुई जो यह नहीं चाहता कि उसके जीते जागते उससे उसके हक लड़के द्वारा छीने जायें । हम चाहते हैं कि पार्लियामेंट की ओर से इस तरह की जो कारपोरेशन बने, या जो संस्था बने उसको कुछ न कुछ अस्तित्वा जरूर दिये जायें और इन शक्तियों का विकेन्द्रिकरण किया जाये । एक ही हाथ में शक्ति को रखना अच्छी बात नहीं है । अगर कोई शक्ति किसी दूसरे के हाथ में जाती है या संस्था के हाथ में जाती है तो इस में किसी तरह का एतराज नहीं होना

[ ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह ]

चाहिये । फिर भी अगर वे चाहते हैं कि पार्लियामेंट के कंट्रोल में रहते हुए वह कारपोरेशन काम करे और आपका कंट्रोल उस पर कायम रहे तो ऐसा भी हो सकता है । आपके हाथ में कानून है और यदि वह कानून इस तरह के कंट्रोल रखने की इजाजत नहीं देता तो आप उस कानून को बदल सकते हैं और यदि कोई वैधानिक अड़चन है तो वह भी दूर की जा सकती है । आप जिस तरह से भी चाहें उसपर नियंत्रण रख सकते हैं ।

श्री श्री नारायण दास जी ने कहा था कि चाहे सरकार कितनी ही ईमानदारी से काम करे, कितनी ही निष्पक्षता से काम करे लेकिन लोगों को उस पर हमेशा शक होता है कि सरकार पक्षपात पूर्ण तरीके से काम कर रही है । इस पर भाई अलगू राय शास्त्री जी ने कहा कि यह लाइलाज बीमारी है । इसका क्या इलाज है । मैं आपको बतलाता हूँ । इसका एक इलाज तो यह है कि आप अपने अधिकार इस पर से छोड़ दें, यह जो प्रचार का साधन है उसको एक पब्लिक कारपोरेशन के हाथ में दे दें । ऐसा करने से किसी किस्म की शिकायत नहीं रह जाएगी और कोई भी इस पर शक की निगाह से नहीं देखेगा । अगर आप इस बीमारी का इलाज करना चाहते हैं तो इसका यही एक इलाज है ।

श्री भागवत झा आज़ाद ने कहा कि हमारे देश में भाषा का प्रश्न है, हमारे देश में काश्मीर का प्रश्न है और हमें राष्ट्र की शक्ति का निर्माण करना है । इन सब प्रश्नों को हल करने का जो तरीका उन्होंने बताया वह यह है कि इसको एक विभाग के जरिये चलाया जाए न कि किसी किस्म के कारपोरेशन के जरिये । दूसरे देशों के इतिहास हमारे सामने हैं । दूसरे देशों में जो कमेटियां नियुक्त की गई थीं और उन्होंने जो रिपोर्टें पेश की हैं उनको मैंने पढ़ा है

वहां पर भी विभिन्न भाषाओं के हों हुए भी पब्लिक कारपोरेशन बहुत ही अच्छे तरीके से काम कर रहे हैं । वहां पर भी राष्ट्र के निर्माण का काम हो रहा है और भली भांति हो रहा है । यदि आप चाहें तो आप इस पब्लिक कारपोरेशन पर नियंत्रण रख सकते हैं और किसी तरह का प्रतिबन्ध भी लगा सकते हैं । यदि आप चाहते हैं कि दूसरे देशों में जो समाचार भेजे जायें वे आपकी इजाजत से भेजे जायें तो इस प्रकार का नियंत्रण आप उस कारपोरेशन पर रख सकते हैं । ऐसा करने से आपके रास्ते में कोई रुकावट नहीं होगी । इसलिये यदि आप कहें कि अभी आपकी भाषा का प्रश्न हल करना है, काश्मीर का प्रश्न हल करना है या आपके सामने आपकी वैदेशिक नीति का प्रश्न है अतः आप एक पब्लिक कारपोरेशन नहीं बना सकते । मेरे विचार में यह अच्छी दलील नहीं है । डा० केशकर ने एक पब्लिक कारपोरेशन बनाये जाने के खिलाफ जो भी दलीलें दी हैं उनमें भी कुछ सार नजर नहीं आया । संक्षेप में उन्होंने बताया कि कोई भी कारपोरेशन स्वतंत्र रूप में काम कर सके यह संभव नहीं है । बी० बी० सी० भी पार्लियामेंट के कंट्रोल में रहते हुये काम करता है, पार्लियामेंट में उसके बाबत जवाब दिये जाते हैं, उसकी कार्यवाहियों पर बहस की जाती है, वहां के गवर्नर आदि जब बहाल किये जाते हैं तो वे भी सरकार द्वारा बहाल किये जाते हैं । शायद आपकी यह मान्यता होगी कि हाल ही में वहां एक फैसला किया गया है कि बी० बी० सी० के जो गवर्नर बहाल किये जायेंगे वे एक दूसरी बाडी द्वारा बहाल किये जायेंगे । उस बाडी में जो लोग होंगे उनमें पार्लियामेंट के स्पीकर, अपोजीशन के लीडर, वहां का प्राइम-मिनिस्टर, चीफ जस्टिस इत्यादि

होंगे। ऐसे जिम्मेदार लोग वहां गवर्नरों को बहाल करने के लिये हों तो ऐसे प्रादमियों के ऊपर या ऐसी संस्था के ऊपर किसी तरह का भविष्यवासी रखने का कोई कारण नहीं हो सकता। उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि कमशियल इंटरस्ट इसमें आ जायेंगे। मुझे पता नहीं कि कमशियल इंटरस्ट का क्या मतलब है? क्या इसका यह मतलब है कि यह कमशियल इंस्टीट्यूशन के हाथ में चला जायेगा या कमशियल एडवर्टाइजमेंट शुरू हो जायेंगे। अगर इसके बारे में भी इस पर बे किसी प्रकार का प्रतिबन्ध लगाना चाहें तो वे ऐसा भी कर सकते हैं। बी० बी० सी० में चार्टर के जरिये उस पर प्रतिबन्ध लगा दिया गया है जिससे कि कमशियल इंटरस्ट उस में नहीं आ सकता, और वह पब्लिक गुड के लिये ही इस्तेमाल किया जा सकता है। आपने चार करोड़ रुपया इस पर खर्च कर दिया है और आप दस करोड़ और खर्च करने वाले हैं। पता नहीं इसमें आपने टेलीविजन की व्यवस्था की है या नहीं। यदि आप इतना रुपया खर्च करना चाहते हैं तो क्या आप यह सब रुपया एक पब्लिक कारपोरेशन को नहीं दे सकते। आपने हाल ही में सात करोड़ रुपया एक कारपोरेशन को बना कर उसको दिया है जो रुपया व्यापारियों को दिया जायेगा। यहां के व्यवसायियों को देगा। यदि आप चाहें तो एक पब्लिक कारपोरेशन बना कर जो रुपया आप खर्च करना चाहते हैं उसके हवाले कर सकते हैं, इसमें कोई रूकावट आपके सामने नहीं आती। यदि आप उस कारपोरेशन को कुछ भी नहीं देना चाहते, कोई ग्रान्ट नहीं देना चाहते, सबसिडी नहीं देना चाहते और चाहते हैं कि वह कारपोरेशन केवल फीसों के जरिये ही अपना काम चलायें तो बात दूसरी है और मैं कुछ भी नहीं कहना चाहता। लेकिन यदि आप अपना सहयोग इस कारपोरेशन

को देना चाहते हैं और हर किस्म से इसकी मदद करना चाहते हैं तो आपके रास्ते में किसी किस्म की रूकावट पैदा नहीं हो सकती और उस पर जिस तरह का नियंत्रण आप रखना चाहें आप रख सकते हैं। ऐसी हालत में मैं फिर आपसे कहूंगा कि आपने और प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो भाववासन दिया था उसको पूरा करें और आप ऐसा कदम जरूर उठायें जिससे कारपोरेशन स्थापित हो। ऐसा करने से आप पर जो पक्षपात का लान्छन लगाया जाता है उससे आप भी बच सकते हैं और ब्राडकास्टिंग के माध्यम को राष्ट्र के निर्माण में और राष्ट्र के हित में इस्तेमाल भी कर सकते हैं।

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Is the amendment pressed? Shri S. N. Das. Not in his seat. Very well.

The question is:

That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

"This House before expressing its opinion regarding the suitability of any organisation for controlling and regulating the broadcasting medium considers it necessary that the Central Government should constitute a Committee consisting of the Members of Parliament and experts, who, after examining the activities and the system of working of the present organisation as also after ascertaining which organisations function in other countries for this work and the system of their working, should make necessary recommendations in this regard and suggest ways and means for their implementation".

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"This House is of opinion that Government should introduce legislation, as early as possible, to set up a corporation to control and

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

operate the broadcasting media in the country."

*The motion was negatived.*

RESOLUTION RE SEPARATION  
OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS  
FINANCE

Shri S. C. Samanta (Tamluk): I beg to move:

"This House is opinion that Posts and Telegraphs Finance should be separated from the General Finance."

This is not the first time that I am bringing this subject before the House and the Ministry. Last year and the year before last during the Budget discussions on the Demands for Grants of the Communications Ministry I put this matter before the House and the Ministry. The replies of the hon. Minister and the hon. Deputy Minister in those two years could not satisfy me.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair]

They touched all the other points referred to by me, but on the point of separation, they were silent.

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): I did say a few words about that also, so far as I remember.

Shri S. C. Samanta: I want a categorical reply from the Communications Minister, from the Finance Minister and the Cabinet as to whether they are ready to accept this resolution, the purport of which has been put forward for more than two years.

My demand is based on the ground which I have mentioned before also, viz., that this department is not only a public utility concern, but also a commercial one as is the present Indian Railways. Why has Railway finance been separated by a Convention in 1924? Why has it been ratified in 1949 and ratified again in December last? Where is the answer?

Both the hon. Ministers admitted in answer to my question and in answer to the question put by my friend Mr. Mukerjee that the Posts and Telegraphs Department is not only a public utility concern, but also a commercial one. Then, where is the difficulty? Is the Cabinet, is the Government not willing to accept it? On what ground should it not be separated? We must be clear.

It has been moved since 1924. The then Legislature moved it. Then it was not accepted simply because it was a losing concern and nothing else. Now, it is not a losing concern. You will see that till now the Posts and Telegraphs department was a losing concern, but this year Rs. 70 lakhs is the net surplus. So, that argument will not stand. Why is this discrimination made against this Ministry? Perhaps, they think: united we stand, divided we fall. Then, why have you separated Railway finance? Did not the Railway finance being separated work so well that in the present budget discussion all of my friends commended the department? Why should there not be that much commendation for this department also if its finance is separated? By separation, it should not be meant that it is going away. No. It is within the administration as the Railway is. The whole finance is there, but for management and other things we should have this Posts and Telegraphs finance separated, for its good running as the Railway is running. The Railway has a finance of Rs. 800 crores as capital, while the Posts and Telegraphs now has Rs. 84 crores capital. In its own way, the Posts and Telegraphs department can run it.

In spite of so much money accumulated with the General Finance, why is it that the employees of this department spread over all corners of India are not getting accommodation to live in? Because, the Posts and Telegraphs Department has no management of its own to give accommoda-