

offer, however, is still under the consideration of the Government of India. As soon as this proposal has received final consideration, the O&NGC will be asked to take up the details with E.N.I. for starting exploratory programme in the Cutch area. If, however, this basis will not be acceptable to the E.N.I. there is every prospect of new proposals for participatory venture for exploration and production of oil being re-negotiated.

12-12 hrs.

RE. CALLING ATTENTION NOTICE

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with further.....

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun) rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will resume his seat. I thought he will give notice of a question. A question may be tabled and not a 'calling attention' notice. I wanted the office to inform him about it. If he gave notice of a question, I will get the answer from the hon. Minister.

Shri Tyagi: In fact, yesterday when I say you in your Chamber, you told me that I could give a 'calling attention' notice for today. Therefore, I again gave the notice. It is an important matter because there is a mention that according to the clearly defined policy of the Government, the Police are not going to enter temples, whether of the Sikhs or of the Hindus. It is a sensational matter and I want this misunderstanding to be cleared. I do not know why this is being avoided and why the hon. Minister is being consulted in the matter. If the hon. Minister is to be accommodated, I have also got an equal right to be accommodated.

Mr. Speaker: I have not put down the 'calling attention' notice for today.

I had in my mind a doubt whether I should not allow the hon. Member to give notice of a question. It is true he came to me. After he left me, I thought that the better procedure would not be by way of a 'calling attention' notice but by way of a question so that he might have an opportunity to know also why and under what circumstances this order has been passed. By way of mere 'calling attention' notice, he will only get a 'yes' or 'no'. Then there is no more information than what he has himself given.

Shri Tyagi: I want to know whether it is true. Why do they not think of contradicting it and say that that is not the policy? I wanted to give the Treasury Benches a chance of doing that. If they do not want to avail of it, it is another matter.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. Minister in a position to say what exactly the situation is?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Your idea, as you have said, is that either it should come in the form of a 'calling attention' notice or in the form of a question. Then I can certainly answer it.

Mr. Speaker: I will put it down for tomorrow.

Shri Tyagi: Shall I take it that all these mosques, temples and religious places are sanctuaries for criminals?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Nothing is lost . . .

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): It is obvious that it will be highly undesirable for these sacred places of worship to become sanctuaries for evil-doers. That is obvious. It does not require any other answer. But there are certain circumstances as to when action should be taken and when it should not be taken. Other considerations come into play there. Those

considerations cannot be answered by a 'yes' or 'no' because all the circumstances have to be taken into account.

Shri Tyagi: Why issue warrants then?

Mr. Speaker: I will put it on the Order Paper tomorrow. Then the hon. Minister will make a statement.

Shri Tyagi: It is something ridiculous.

Watch and Ward Officer.

Watch and Ward Officer: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Is Shri R. K. Karanjia in attendance?

Watch and Ward Officer: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Bring him in.

(Shri R. K. Karanjia was then brought in and he stood at the Bar of the House.)

12.14 hrs.

REPRIMAND TO SHRI R. K.
KARANJIA

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We shall now take up the item of business regarding the reprimand of Shri R. K. Karanjia.

The House is, of course, well aware that the moment we take up this matter we will, in a sense, be functioning as the High Court of Parliament. This will be a solemn occasion and we do not deliberate then. It emphasises the authority and sovereignty of Parliament. I need hardly emphasise that when Shri Karanjia is being reprimanded, there should be pin-drop silence, so that the dignity and authority of this House is maintained and the significance of the reprimand and the solemnity of it is emphasised.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): Are you, Sir, improving upon the Constitution by making this House the High Court of Parliament? Under the Constitution, our powers are defined.

Mr. Speaker: So far as the reprimand is concerned, there is no more deliberation upon that. We exercise the powers of a deliberative assembly while imposing the reprimand. When executing it, we function, in a sense, as the High Court of Parliament: I never said "the High Court of Parliament". Let us not under-estimate our own privileges.

1042 (A) LSD—5.

Mr. Speaker: R. K. Karanjia, the House has adjudged you guilty of committing a gross breach of privilege and contempt of the House for publishing in the issue dated the 15th April, 1961, of the *Blitz*, of which you are the editor, a libellous despatch under the heading "The Kripaloony Impeachment". That despatch, in its tenor and content, libelled an honourable member of this House and cast reflections on him on account of his speech and conduct in the House and referred to him in a contemptuous and insulting manner. As editor, you had a high responsibility to exercise utmost caution and discretion in commenting on the speech and conduct of an honourable member of Parliament in his capacity as such member, yet you published words calculated to bring him into odium, contempt and ridicule. This offence of yours was further aggravated by the type of explanation you chose to submit to the Committee of Privileges.

In the name of this House, I accordingly reprimand you for committing a gross breach of privilege and contempt of this House.

I now direct you to withdraw.

(Shri R. K. Karanjia then withdrew.)