

Committee of FAO in Delhi itself, when some important and helpful decisions were taken. At the moment, tea is governed by the decisions mutually arrived at with the good offices of FAO and I believe we would be able to improve our tea market.

Preaching of Communal Propaganda by Political Parties

*41. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether during the recent elections some of the parties have openly preached communal propaganda to suit their political ends; and

(b) if so, what steps Government desire to take to check further growth of such communal parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). There are reasons to suspect that in the course of the recent elections attempts were made to exploit communal sentiments with the intention of achieving electoral gains. Such activities would constitute corrupt practices for purposes of section 123 of the Representation of the People Act. The steps taken by Government to overcome the danger involved in the persistence of communal tension are well-known. The Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Bill, 1970, was specifically intended to check the growth of organisations indulging in activities prejudicial to the interest of communal harmony. The Bill had to be withdrawn in December, 1970 because of the objections raised by the opposition parties. Further action in this matter is under consideration of the Government.

श्री एस० एम० बनर्जी : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि इस तरह की कार्यवाहियाँ

रिप्रिजेंटेशन आफ दि पीपल एक्ट के अनुसार करके प्रैक्टिस मानी जाती हैं। क्या उनके ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि जब पाकिस्तान में कुछ बदमाशों ने हमारे एक हवाई जहाज को फूंक दिया, तो कुछ पोलिटिकल पार्टीज ने उनका नाजायज फायदा उठाने की कोशिश की ? इस सिलसिले में मैं खास तौर से जनसंघ का नाम लेने में मजबूर हूँ। उन्होंने कानपुर में मुसलमान इलाकों में लिखा, "हिन्दू बीरो जागो"। बाद में क्या करो, यह उन्होंने नहीं लिखा, लेकिन शायद वे लिखना चाहते थे, "मुसलमानों के मकानों को फूंक दो"। उन्होंने इस तरह दहशत पैदा करने की कोशिश की। (व्यवधान)

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : यह आरोप बिल्कुल गलत और निराधार है। जनसंघ ने कहीं कोई ऐसी बात नहीं लिखी। (व्यवधान)

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : Let there be an enquiry and I will prove it.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO JOSHI : It is baseless. (Interruptions).

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Taking advantage of that situation, may I know whether Muslim minorities were threatened by Jan Sangh and they were asked not to vote ? May I know whether this has been brought to the knowledge of the minister? Apart from treating it as a corrupt practice, which could never be proved may I know whether any penal action was taken against parties or will be taken in future ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Instances of the nature mentioned by the hon. member have reached the Government. Apart from action under the Representation of the people Act, which could be taken only in proceedings of election petitions, there are other provisions under the Indian Penal Code, to which resort can be had. Report from the State

Governments suggest that they have taken action in such cases and I hope they will proceeded with.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of the minister that unlike the Muslim League in Kerala, the Muslim League in U.P. and in certain other places also indulged in the most perinicious type of communal propoganda and whether action will be taken against important office-bearers of the Muslim league for delivering such speeches ?

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT : I categorically deny the allegations. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : Copies of the speeches must be there. I want to know whether any hon. member of this House or important leaders of the Muslim League delivered the pisonous speeches and whether action will be taken against Hindu communalism as well as Muslim communalism. Kanpur is the place of Ganesh Shanker Vidyarthi. We shall not allow it to be converted into a town of Nathuram Godse or of the Muslim League. That is the verdict of the Kanpur people. (*Interruptions*),

SHRI EBRLHIM SULAIMAN SAIT : Muslim League is not a communal organisation. It is represented in this House. I categorically deny the allegations. Minorities have got the right to exist in this country and they have a right to organisation and to the protection of their rights. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : At least I will have to be very careful about questions which generate such communal heat which we should avoid in this House if not outside.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : It is open to the State Government to take action against particular persons concerned,

I cannot say in regard to this particular speech referred to, whether action was taken or not. Government believes that any type of communalism, whether of the one type or the other, is most undesirable and reprehensible and every effort should be made to curb them.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : The Minister has persistently declared that on account of objection from the opposition parties to curb the communal activities, the Act could not be taken up and it was postponed. Since the Government has got a very good and comfortable majority, are they thinking of enacting another measure to curb communal activities now ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Well the Government propose to take up this legislation, but still we want to take as many Members of the House with us as possible. This is an important piece of legislation and we will be having consultation with the political parties represented in the House.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : May I know whether the Minister is aware that besides the communal propoganda some of the parties and leaders have openly exploited caste and sub-caste feelings in Tamil Nadu and if so will the Government take any action against them.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Well, Sir, here also, action can be taken under the Respresentation of the People Act as also under the relevant section of the IPC. It is open to the State Government to take whatever action is called for.

श्री बी० पी० जी० शर्मा : माननीय मंत्री जी ने चुनाव याचिका के बारे में कुछ कहा और कहा कि उस के बारे में भी हम ध्यान दे रहे हैं कि साम्प्रदायिकता के आसार पर कोई प्रोपेगेंडा न हो। जहाँ तक चुनाव

याचिका का सम्बन्ध है उस का प्रश्न यहाँ पर नहीं उठता। स्टेट्स में ला एंड आर्डर रहे, साम्प्रदायिकता के आघार पर कोई दंगे न हों इस से भी इस का सम्बन्ध है और चुनाव में कम्युनल प्रोपेगेंडा के आघार पर ही यह सब बढ़ जाते हैं तो मैं यह जानना चाहूँगा कि प्रदेशों में कितने केस रजिस्टर हुए हैं पुलिस में कि कम्युनल प्रोपेगेंडा हो रहा है और ऐसे पैम्फलेट्स विशेष दलों के द्वारा निकले हैं जो साम्प्रदायिकता की आग भड़काते हैं? दूसरे अगर आज की ताजीरात हिन्द की व्यवस्था नाकाफी है तो क्या गृह मंत्री इस पर विचार करेंगे कि कोई सख्त व्यवस्था ताजीरात हिन्द में की जाय ताकि साम्प्रदायिकता के आघार पर चुनाव लड़ने वाले दलों की रोकथाम की जा सके ?

श्री राम निवास मिर्चा : श्रीमान् जैसा मैं ने निवेदन किया था आई० पी० सी० के अंतर्गत इस पर कार्यवाही की जा सकती है और जहाँ तक एलेक्शन पेटिशन का सम्बन्ध है वह तो व्यक्ति से सम्बन्धित है कि वह इस के बारे में क्या कार्यवाही करना चाहता है। लेकिन जहाँ तक केन्द्रीय सरकार का प्रश्न है आई० पी० सी० में जो प्रावधान हैं उन पर राज्य सरकार व उन की पुलिस ही कार्यवाही कर सकती है। अगर माननीय सदस्य का मतलब यह हो कि केन्द्रीय सरकार को कुछ अधिकार और हों या और दिये जाएं तो उसके लिए संवैधानिक व्यवस्था में काफी परिवर्तन करना पड़ेगा।

श्री बी० पी० शौर्य : मेरा प्रश्न यह था कि साम्प्रदायिकता के आघार पर दंगे हुए हैं, प्रोपेगेंडा हुआ है, थाने में रिपोर्टें लिखाई गई हैं जिन पर कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हो रही है तो इन तमाम सत्यों को ध्यान में रखते हुए क्या सरकार यह सोच

रही है कि ताजीरात हिन्द में विशेष व्यवस्था की जाय जिस की वजह से की इस प्रकार का काम न हो सके।

श्री राम निवास मिर्चा : श्रीमान, माननीय सदस्य ने अभी इस संदर्भ में दो प्रश्न किए। एक तो यह कि आई० पी० सी० में कुछ परिवर्तन करने की आवश्यकता है या नहीं, उस के बारे में मैंने कहा कि अभी इस समय उसमें प्रावधान मौजूद हैं जो समझता है कि पर्याप्त हैं। जहाँ तक आँकड़ों का प्रश्न है कि किन किन राज्य सरकारों ने कितने केसेज दायर किए, इस की सूचना इस समय मेरे पास नहीं है। एक केस जहाँ कि एक पोस्टर निकला था जिसमें बताया गया था कि कांग्रेस को बोट देना गौहत्या करना है, इस प्रकार के पोस्टर पर कार्रवाही की गई है।

SHRIMATI GAYATRI DEVI : The hon. Member Shri S. M. Banerjee spoke about the Jan Sangh and the Muslim League but throughout Rajasthan and in other places, we noticed that the ruling party also indulged in communal propaganda.....

MR. SPEAKER : The main question is only about communal parties.....

SHRIMATI GAYATRI DEVI : That was what I said.

MR. SPEAKER : I am very sorry. I shall have to ask the hon. Member to be relevant to the main question.

SHRIMATI GAYATRI DEVI : The voters were told that because the four parties had come together including the Jan Sangh, therefore, if the voters voted for the Swatantra Party, then the Muslims would be massacred *en masse*. May I know if that is not communal propaganda? Also, the hon. Minister knows very well himself that the various communities in Rajasthan

were put against each other. In fact, my congress opponent was so versatile that he moved from place to place and changed his name from Jat name to Muslim name according to the place where he was going, and called himself Pir Kazim Chaudhuri in Muslim place and so on. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that communalism was fanned greatly in this manner in Rajasthan.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is not relevant. The hon. Minister need not answer this.

SHRI PILOO MODY : May I ask you what is not relevant in this matter ?

MR. SPEAKER : I know that.

SHRI PILOO MODY : I would also like to know.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is purely about communal parties.

SHRI P. K. DEO : We would like to be educated.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : They are from the Swatantra, and Swatantra is irrelevant to this question.

SHRI PILOO MODY : You have permitted a question on the Jan Sangh on the basis that it is a communal party, but you will not allow us a question on the Ruling Congress saying that it is not a communal party. You may better take exception to that first.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : May I invite your attention to part (a) of the question and point out, that it does not refer to communal parties but only to communal propaganda by political parties ?

SHRI P. K. DEO : That was the very question asked by her.

श्री भोगेश्वर झा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो सवाल पूछा गया था हम लोगों का आग्रह है कि वह रैलीवेन्ट है और उस का जवाब दिया जाना चाहिए। शासक दल ने किया या नहीं, इसका जवाब मंत्री महोदय दे दें। यह कहना ठीक नहीं है कि सवाल रैलीवेन्ट नहीं है। आप कृपा करके सवाल का जवाब दिलाइए।

SHRI PILOO MODY : May I draw your attention to the title of the Question which is preaching of communal propaganda by political parties ? Unless you maintain that the Congress (R) is not a political party, I think the question is relevant.

MR. SPEAKER : I am very sorry. I took it otherwise. The hon. Member is correct.

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : I have no hesitation in saying that we are against communal propaganda, regardless of which individual belonging to which party indulges in it. But we have no information about this particular incident.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, साम्प्रदायिक प्रचार के हम भी खिलाफ हैं मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि साम्प्रदायिकता क्या है, कौन सा दल साम्प्रदायिक है कौन सा नहीं इसका निर्णय करने के लिए क्या सरकार कोई इंडिपेंडेंट कमीशन नियुक्त करेगी। जो यह तय कर सके कि किसे साम्प्रदायिकता कहा जाय, कौन साम्प्रदायिक दल है, जिससे सरकार पर यह आरोप न लगे कि वह अपने राजनीतिक विरोधियों को कुचलने के लिए उन्हें साम्प्रदायिक कह रही है ?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : There was quite a long discussion on this matter in the National Integration Council. Shri Vajpayee and other members of his party were present there. I do think the House expects me to go into all those details. If they like, we could make the material available to them.

The question is not of theoretical definition. It is a question, as I have said on many occasions, where some people create an atmosphere which leads to an incident which in a normal atmosphere would not become a communal does become one, if feelings are created against a particular community. This is what we are against and this is what Government are pledged to fight, no matter who indulges in it.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I asked an entirely different question, though this explanation is welcome. We are also pledged to fight communal and anti-national tendencies. I asked whether Government proposed to appoint an independent commission to define communalism and also which of the parties are actually communal parties. Let them say yes or no.

श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी : मैंने कह दिया है, इस विषय पर सब पोलिटिकल पार्टीज के साथ बहस हो चुकी है।

श्री इयामनम्बन मिश्र : आखीर में फैसला क्या हुआ ?

श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी : फैसला मैं आप को भेज दूंगी।

As regards a commission, it is not a practical proposition. Who is an 'independent' person in that sense.

Marketing of Indian Tea Abroad

*43. SHRI J. M. GOWDER : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the keen competition which our tea is facing in the world market; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to improve the sales of tea?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L.N. MISHRA) : (a) Yer, Sir.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

Government have taken several steps to improve the sales of tea in foreign markets of which the important steps taken to augment the exports of tea are :—

- (1) abolition of export duty on tea from 1-3-70 ;
- (2) giving *ad hoc* rebate in respect of excise duty on tea exports at rates varying with the price of exported tea;
- (3) a replanting subsidy scheme at the rate of Rs. 3,500/- per hectare for plain gardens and Rs. 4500/- per hectare for hill gardens for helping the industry in carrying our replantation of old tea areas to increase production, reduce costs and improve quality;
- (4) promotional measures for Indian tea through the offices of the Tea Board functioning the in London, Brussels, New York, Cairo and Sydney and Tea Centres established at London, Edinburgh, Cairo and Sydney;
- (5) promotion of special pack of Indian tea in selected markets abroad with the cooperation of the local blender/packer;
- (6) advertisements through appropriate media of publicity in countries abroad;
- (7) participation in trade fairs and exhibitions;