

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Monday, March 20, 1967/Phalguna 29,
1888 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBERS SWORN

Shrimati Gayatri Devi (Jaipur)

Shri Brijendra Singh (Bharatpur)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Activities of CIA

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- *1. Shri George Fernandes:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Umanath:

Will the Minister of External Affairs
be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware
of the disclosures now being made in
the American Press of the use by CIA
of various international agencies to do
spying and subversive work on behalf
of the United States Government in
several parts of the world;

(b) whether Government have got
a list of the Organisations in India—
either solely of Indian background
or branches of international agencies
—that are receiving CIA funds
through any source to finance their
activities; and

(c) whether Government propose to
start immediate investigation into the

extent of involvement by labour orga-
nisations and other public and semi-
public associations in India with in-
ternational bodies that receive funds
from the CIA in the United States?

The Minister of External Affairs
(Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) to (c). The
Government of India have noted re-
ports in the U.S. Press indicating that
the Central Intelligence Agency of
the United States has contributed
funds to various organisations in the
U.S. which in turn have financed per-
sons from other countries to take trips
to the U.S.A., to various Conferences
and Assemblies and also other activi-
ties. These Press disclosures have
listed some Indian bodies as being
among the beneficiaries of such funds.
Like most recipients elsewhere, these
Indian bodies innocently accepted
funds from international U.S. organi-
sations since they were ignorant of
the fact that the U.S. organisations
concerned had been financed by the
CIA.

By their very nature, activities such
as those now attributed to the CIA
are carried out secretly and such activi-
ties are not normally capable of
verification. Government are, how-
ever, constantly vigilant to protect the
national interest. Whenever possible
they take action against subversive
and intelligence activities. In the
present case, the implications of the
revelations in the U.S. are under con-
sideration and if any specific action is
called for, it will be taken.

श्री जार्ज फर्नेन्डिस : क्या सरकार
को इस बात का पता है कि कांग्रेस फॉर
कल्चरल प्रोग्राम नाम की संस्था को सी०
आई०ए० कई काउन्सिलों के द्वारा पैसा

मिलता है और यह कांग्रेस और कल्चरल फ्रीडम को दो साक्षात् एशियन सांस्कृतिक केन्द्र और इंडियन कनेटी और कल्चरल फ्रीडम यह दोनों संस्थाएं, हिन्दुस्तान में काफ़ी धर्म से काम कर रही हैं और वर्ल्ड असेम्बली आफ यूथ नाम के संगठन की ओर से सेंट्रल इंटील्लिजेंस एजेंसी के द्वारा जो पैसा मिलता है वह वर्ल्ड असेम्बली आफ यूथ की तरफ से हिन्दुस्तान के दो ऐसे संगठनों को, एक तो वे, वर्ल्ड असेम्बली आफ यूथ सेंटर ट्रस्ट और दूसरे इंडियन यूथ कांग्रेस इन को भी मदद दी जाती है ?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I have a list here of the Indian institutions which were mentioned in the American press. My hon. friend is right that one of the organisations that was mentioned is receiving funds from the CIA was the Congress for Cultural Freedom and also the International Youth Centre, Delhi and the World Assembly of Youth.

श्री मधु लिमबे : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा एक प्वाइंट आफ़ ऑर्डर है। श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज ने यह नहीं पूछा कि अमरीका में जो रपट छपी है उसमें इन संस्थाओं के नाम हैं या नहीं, उन का प्रश्न है कि क्या भारत सरकार को जानकारी है कि सी० प्रॉ० ए० से उन संस्थाओं को पैसा मिलता है? प्रश्नों का सही जवाब देना चाहिए। मैं चाहता हूँ कि सदन का समय ख़राब न किया जाय।

Shri M. C. Chagla: I will correctly answer it. As far as the Government of India is concerned, its attention was drawn to this fact for the first time when the reporters appeared in the American press.

श्री मधु लिमबे : आप की इंटील्लिजेंस एजेंसी क्या कर रही है? उस के ऊपर हम इतना पैसा खर्च करते हैं।

Shri Jyotirmoy Basu: What is meant by the word 'innocently'?

Mr. Speaker: Shri Fernandes might ask his second question.

Shri Krishna Kumar Chatterjee: Sir, you must give opportunity to this side also.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member must know that two supplementaries are allowed to the first Member. Then I will look to the other side.

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज : क्या सी० प्रॉ० ए० की ओर से जिन दो संस्थाओं को, वे वर्ल्ड असेम्बली आफ़ यूथ ट्रस्ट और इंडियन यूथ कांग्रेस, जिनको पैसा मिलता है उन दोनों संगठनों से काबीना के दो बड़े मंत्रियों का सम्बन्ध है? क्या इस की जानकारी सरकार को है?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It is a very serious matter. The hon. Member has mentioned the names of two organisations with which it seems two Cabinet Ministers are concerned.

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज : मैं अगर आप चाहें तो उन के नाम भी दे सकता हूँ।

Mr. Speaker: Let the hon. Minister answer it. He can explain his point when he asks a question.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, I want to rise on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Let the Minister answer the question.

Shri M. C. Chagla: I am not aware of any Cabinet Minister or other Minister, or any eminent person, in India who is associated with this association, I have not had a look at the names of the office-bearers of these organisations. As I said, this matter came to our attention only recently and the matter is under our consideration. I can assure this House that if any Cabinet Minister was associated with any of these organisations, he could not have been aware, as Government was not aware, that

these organisations were being financed by the CIA.

श्री मधु सिन्घे : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा प्वापंट थाफ़ थर्ड नियम संख्या 41 के मातहत है।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I raise a point of order under rule 41. That rule says:

"Subject to the provisions of sub-rule (2), a question may be asked for the purpose of obtaining information on a matter of public importance within the special cognizance of the Minister to whom it is addressed.

(2) The right to ask a question is governed by the following conditions, namely:

(1) it shall not bring in any name or statement not strictly necessary to make the question intelligible."

The hon. Member, Shri George Fernandes, has not mentioned the names but he has said that two Cabinet Ministers were concerned, to which Shri M. C. Chagla has replied that if these Ministers were associated, they were not aware of its consequences and that Government knew about it later on. I would only mention that since two Cabinet Ministers have been mentioned it is but necessary that those names should be given by the hon. Minister. The hon. Member has made this definite charge that two Ministers are concerned

Mr. Speaker: Not necessary There is no point of order

Some hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Since many of the hon. Members are new, it will help me and the reporters as well if they mention their names and States before they speak. Old Members are known, but many new Members are getting up and we are not able to locate their names. So, it will help if they mention their names and States.

Shri Hanumanthaya: That is not the procedure followed anywhere. It is not a public meeting.

Shri Jyotirmoy Basu: Where is the time to do that?

Mr. Speaker: After the seats are allotted, reporters will be able to locate them, but for two or three days, till seats are allotted, they may not know them. But if they do not want to do that, I might locate them by pointing out my finger but reporters might find it difficult.

श्री मधु सिन्घे : मैंने नियम सं० 41 बतलाया था

Shri K. K. Chatterjee: If there is always a point of order, there will be no questions.

श्री मधु सिन्घे : वही तो करना पड़ता है। मंत्री लोगों को सिखाना पड़ता है कि कैसे प्रश्नों का जवाब दिया जाये। थाप नियम 41(ए) देख लीजिये :

"Subject to the provisions of sub-rule (2), a question may be asked for the purpose of obtaining information on a matter of public importance within the special cognizance of the Minister to whom it is addressed."

Obtaining information लेकिन कोई जानकारी ! नहीं मिल रही है। कैसे वह मैं साबित करता हूँ। माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा कि क्या काबीना के दो महत्वपूर्ण सदस्यों का ऐसी हिन्दुस्तानी संस्थाओं से सम्बन्ध है जिन को सी० आई० ए० के द्वारा पैसा मिलता है। दिल्ली में एक मंत्री का नाम निकला, और वह हमारे वर्तमान वित्त मंत्री हैं। इसी जानकारी तो रखनी चाहिये और कहना चाहिये कि यह गलत बात है। हमारे आज सबेरे श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज ने एक चिट्ठी मुझे भेजी है। वह दो बाकियों की है और इस से बिल्कुल सम्बन्धित है। वह मैं पढ़ कर सुनाता हूँ :

"Dear Madhu, this morning I telephoned the AICC Office to find out who was . . ." (Interruption).