

resorted to section 153A of the IPC which directly deals with communal tension and whether the normal law was ever resorted to?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri A. P. Jain: What about my question?

Mr. Speaker: This matter is still under consideration. I only want to avoid any misapprehension; let us wait and see what exactly Government do. I am not going out of the way in suggesting that when I was the Secretary of the Congress Party in 1948, from the seat where Shri Tyagi sits now, I myself moved a resolution, immediately after the murder of Mahatma Gandhi, that no religious party or communal party shall be allowed to dabble in politics. We passed that resolution, but it has not been given effect to in that manner. Instead of bringing a Bill here to give effect to it, they have been devising various methods of doing so. Evidently they thought the climax has been reached in Jabalpur. Therefore, let us allow them to consider this matter and bring it before this House. I will give ample opportunity to hon. Members to discuss it threadbare and see that the Government come to a proper conclusion in the interests of all parties concerned.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know whether whatever decision is to be taken shall be taken much ahead of the next election?

Mr. Speaker: I am sure that something will be done before the next session.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Yes, Sir; certainly whatever we have to do, we will try to come to some decision as early as possible, definitely much before the elections.

As regards Shri Jain's question, I have merely to say that as Minister in charge of Home Affairs, I know that a resolution was passed in the Bhavnagar session.

Shri Hem Barua: On a point of order. We are very often told by you and very rightly too that the Question Hour is meant for eliciting information. I thought a little bit differently about the Question Hour. I thought the Question Hour is meant for keeping the Government on its toes perpetually. Whatever that may be, here is Shri Jain, who has come out with a sort of propaganda on behalf of the Congress Party. (Interruptions).

Some Hon. Members: No.

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: I have understood the point of order. I find that not all hon. Members, but some hon. Members, utilise the Question Hour for purposes of propaganda. I do not think the hon. Member who raised the objection is an exception. Before I rule out a question, very often I ask them, "What is the question?" They say "I am still coming to the question". That is what hon. Members say. When once it enters into the record, I am helpless. Ultimately I find there is no question. I do not want to expunge all that. It does not matter. The hon. Member is not going to be carried away by propaganda inside this House, when he is immune to the propaganda outside this House. He need not worry himself. (Interruptions).

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: On a point of order. There was one question about the speech of the Law Minister. Now the Law Minister has come. Some clarification may be sought from him.

Balachedi Palace of Jam Saheb of order. Next question.

Balachedi Palace of Jam Saheb of Nawanagar

***1907, Shri Ramakrishna Reddy:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have purchased the Palace of Jam Saheb of Nawanagar at Balachedi;

(b) if so, at what price and for what purpose;

(c) whether the palace so purchased is in a good condition; and

(d) if not, what improvements are needed?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Shri Ramakrishna Reddy: How does the purchase value of this building compare with the construction of a new building?

Sardar Majithia: The Union Government have not purchased it and therefore (b), (c) and (d) of the main question do not arise. Therefore, this supplementary which has been put by the hon. Member also does not arise.

Shri Ranga: May I know whether any such question of purchase has been under consideration?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): No, Sir.

Shri P. R. Patel: May I know whether a military school is to be located at Jamnagar and there is some negotiation by some estate there?

Shri Krishna Menon: Government has no such negotiation under consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Is there a proposal to have a school in Nawanager?

Shri P. R. Patel: Not Nawanager, but Jamnagar. What is the site selected or proposed to be selected? Is it near Jamnagar?

Shri Krishna Menon: That is another question.

Mr. Speaker: The question says:

"Whether the Union Government have purchased the palace of Jam Saheb of Nawanager at Balachedi".

What is the town that he refers to now?

Shri P. R. Patel: It is somewhere near Jamnagar.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether there is a proposal to establish a school and for that purpose whether there is a proposal to purchase the palace?

Shri Krishna Menon: If a separate question is put, then alone I can answer because there will be so many supplementaries on that. This question is only about purchasing this building. We have not negotiated and we have not purchased the building.

Shri C. M. Kedaria: May I know whether there was an offer of Vadia Mahal of Rajpipala for the same purpose and the result thereof?

Shri Krishna Menon: The answer is the same. We have not negotiated for any building in Rajpipala.

Oil in Tanjore District

*1908. **Shri R. Narayanasamy:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the delta area in the district of Tanjore, Madras State, is considered a promising area for oil; and

(b) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken to explore the oil potentialities of this area?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). Geological and geophysical surveys are being carried out by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in the Cauvery basin including the delta area in the district of Tanjore. The results of the survey work carried out so far appear to be of interest for oil exploration. Much more geological and geophysical work has to be carried out before anything definite can be said about the suitability of the particular area for exploratory drilling.

Shri R. Narayanasamy: May I know whether any foreign experts have been employed in this connection?