

[Mr. Chairman]

ment control and ensure the supply of all the essential commodities to urban and rural population through fair price shops under the supervision of committed persons.' (2)

I shall now put amendment No. 2 moved by Shri Kamla Mishra Madhukar to the vote of the House.

The Amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I put the Resolution moved by Shri Sudhir Kumar Giri to the vote of the House. The question is:

"This House notes with grave concern the abnormal rise in prices of all essential commodities of human life, such as food-grains; pulses; edible oils; cloth; kerosene, coal, etc. in the country ranging between 20 to 40 per cent within a short span of time and calls upon the Government to take over wholesale trade and curb the price rise by ensuring supply of all the essential commodities at reduced prices through fair price shops."

Those in favour may say 'Aye.'

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Those against may say 'No.'

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Noes have it....

SHRI SUDHIR KUMAR GIRI: No, Ayes have it, I want division.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, let the lobbies be cleared.

The lobbies have been cleared. I will put the Resolution to the vote of the House: The question is:

"This House notes with grave concern the abnormal rise in prices of all essential commodities of human life, such as food-grains;

pulses; edible oils; cloth; kerosene, coal, etc. in the country ranging between 20 to 40 per cent within a short span of time and calls upon the Government to take over wholesale trade and curb the price rise by ensuring supply of all the essential commodities at reduced prices through fair price shops."

The motion was negatived.

17.11 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE. CENTRE-STATE RELATIONSHIP

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up the Resolution on Centre-State Relationship to be moved by Shrimati Suseela Gopalan. Before I ask her to move this Resolution, the House has to allot time for this Resolution. The House agreed to allot two hours for the earlier Resolution. If the House agrees, we may allot two hours for this Resolution also.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): This is an important subject; it will not be over during this session.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Initially, we may agree for two hours. Though time for the earlier Resolution was extended, yet there were no speakers. We may, therefore, agree to two hours initially.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: All right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, I take it that the House agrees to allot two hours for this Resolution.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): There is a discussion under Rule 193 to be taken up at 6.00 P.M. to be

raised by Shri Chitta Basu and Prof. Madhu Dandavate. It will be better if this Resolution is completed by that time

MR. CHAIRMAN: How can it be completed? This cannot be completed. Shrimati Suseela Gopalan.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Alleppey). I beg to move:

“This House is of the opinion that a reappraisal of the existing Centre-State relations with a view to give more financial powers and greater autonomy for the States in consonance with the true concept of federalism is necessary and in this context calls upon the Central Government to immediately convene a Conference of Chief Ministers along with representatives of recognised political parties.”

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Resolution is most appropriate in view of the political situation in the country since the Centre-State relations are at cross roads today. The nine State Chief Ministers who met two days back expressed their concern at the toppling business of the Central Government on the plea that the State Governments have lost mandate from the people. In U. P. and Bihar, the ruling Party at the Centre got only 36 per cent and 36.4 per cent of votes respectively. How can they claim that they have got a mandate from the people of that States in their favour? I ask them if their standard is applied to Kerala, how many of their Members of Parliament will have to resign in view of the mandate the people of Kerala have given in the Assembly elections? Will they consider it correct to ask their MPs to resign? If this is the criteria, there will be elections everyday in our country. Some of the Ministers have gone to the extent of saying that they would throw the West Bengal Ministry into the Bay of Bengal. Both in the Panchayat elections as well as in Parliament elections, the ruling front in West Bengal

have got massive victory not only in the number of seats but also in the matter of percentage of votes... (Interruptions)

Not only in the number of seats, but in the percentage of votes also, they have got a massive majority. Interruptions 53 per cent is not less; and you have got only 43 per cent. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please show some courtesy to the hon. lady Member.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Even then you say that you are going to throw the West Bengal Ministry into the Bay of Bengal. It means that it is not a question of people's mandate, but that of political vendetta.

This actually poses a serious threat to Centre-State relations. The question of Centre-State relations is crucial to the preservation of unity and integrity of India. The several linguistic and cultural groups that inhabit the country were united before Independence in their common aspiration for freedom from colonial bondage. They are to-day united in the common aspiration to build a prosperous life for themselves as well as to develop full national resources free from imperialist interference and according to their respective socio-economic, linguistic and cultural needs. The struggle for realizing this common demand makes it incumbent on the Government at the Centre and the States, Political parties and the people at large to recognize the need for unity in diversity.

During the last two decades, while the demand has been growing for greater Powers to the States so as to make autonomy real and effective, what the Centre has been doing is to erode the limited Powers of the States.

The very existence of the constitutionally elected State Governments depends on the sweet will of the Centre as can be seen from the number of non-Congress State Government

[Shrimati Suseela Gopalan]

subverted during the three decades of Congress rule at the Centre.

During the last 12 years, Centre's tentacles have spread further on the States, even in the sphere of law and order which is formally a State subject, through the creation of CRP, BSF etc. By the 42nd amendment of the Constitution, Centre took Powers to send its Police forces and station them in the States even without the concurrence of the latter. Education which was a State subject was transferred to the Concurrent List. The personnel of the Services Posted in the States even earlier, were not under the disciplinary jurisdiction of the State Governments out of the Centre. The process has reached a stage where it threatens to reduce the States to the status of a subordinate department of the Centre under the aegis of the Union Home Ministry. All these things should be re-assessed properly.

Added to this is the concentration of all the principal means of financial resources in the hands of the Centre, while the main responsibility for nation-building activities is that of the States. They have only very limited resources, mainly confined to land revenue and sales tax, with all the expending resources of revenue like Excise, Customs etc. kept in the hands of the Centre. With the introduction of Planning, Centre has gathered still further financial and administrative Powers in its hands, reducing the States to the Position of mendicants. Even the meetings of the National Development Council have been reduced to a ritual.

Though the State Government is not responsible for the ills of the Policies pursued by the Centre, it is the State Government which has to bear the brunt of discontent caused thereby—more than the remote Union Government.

Regarding the taxation, import and exports policies, the State Government has no say. The impact of these policies have to be borne by them. Indirect taxes are mounting up every Year. During the last 32 Years, the Policy pursued was not different. In the last budget of 1979-80, Excise duty which has a direct impact on the common People, amounted to Rs. 7700 crores, whereas corporate tax and income tax together came to only Rs. 3728 crores. On cotton textiles it was Rs. 700 crores; on kerosene Rs. 150 crores, sugar Rs. 132 crores, matches Rs. 49 crores and soap Rs. 19 crores. As a result of this, Prices of essential commodities go up every year. The State Government has no power to challenge this.

The West Bengal Chief Minister had suggested to the Centre that 10 or 12 items of essential commodities should be distributed all over the country at fair price and they should be supplied at subsidised prices, but the Central Government did not pay any heed to it. They did not even reply to that. This was the attitude taken by the Central Government for the last 32 years, not only for the last three years. If such proposals are made before the Central Government, they are not prepared to discuss these problems. Shri Morarji Desai who was the Prime Minister also said, no question of discussing about Centre-State relations. The same attitude was adopted by Shrimati Indira Gandhi from the very beginning.

The export-import policy also affects the people to a great extent. The State Governments are never consulted. Mrs. Gandhi was talking much about the onion prices during the election campaign. But it was during her own regime, the export of onion was permitted which is responsible for pushing up the price of onion. The Janata Government also continued the same policy. But she cannot escape the responsibility of price rise of onion. Potatoes and

vegetables were also exported and in her own budget she provided rupees 500 per tonne for the export of banana. She also heavily subsidised the export of sugar and sold at Rs. 1.50 per kg. in the European market when the prices doubled or tripled in the Indian market.

Is there any possibility for the State Governments to change these policies even if they desire? Regarding the import of things like rubber and edible oils they never even consult the State Governments. If the State Governments complain about the hardships of the farmers due to the decline in the prices of these things no remedial measures are taken.

17.24 hrs.

[SHRI GULSHER AHMED *in the Chair*]

Kerala is producing rubber and coconut. When there is a reduction in the price of rubber or coconut, then the farmers are suffering. If the State Government complains to the Central Government, they will not take any remedial measures to prevent the hardship caused to the farmers. But if the big companies complain that there is some decrease in their profit, then they will immediately import rubber or edible oil. Coconut oil is used for commercial purposes. Only in Kerala, coconut oil is used for cooking purposes. It is more or less a commercial thing. When the big companies complain that their profit is less, then they will immediately import coconut oil. Same is the case with rubber also. But if the farmers are suffering and the State Government complains, there is no solution for that. But if the big companies complain, even without consulting the State Governments about the impact of imports, the Centre will take decisions to import rubber or edible oil. The prices of these goods come down and the farmers are suffering. Such is the policy of the Central Government for the last 32 years. It is continuing. They are not taking into consideration the opinion of the State Governments.

They have the right to withhold any legislation passed by the State Assemblies though it is very essential for the progress of the State. West Bengal's land legislation was held up for one year. Assent was not given to their legislation for giving recognition to trade unions for secret ballot. Previously, the Central Governments had done the same thing on several occasions. We have our own experience of Kerala. We had sent land legislation in 1959. That was held up in the Centre for one and half years. We had to agitate for getting assent from the Central government. They can withhold consent and they could at the same time pass any legislation which can go against the interest of the people of the State. The State Governments should have exclusive powers to make laws with respect to any matter not enumerated in the Union or Concurrent list. About this there should be a discussion. A great debate is going on about the State-Centre relation. At least at the present juncture the central Government should come forward because the State governments are unable to do many things and they have to face the anger of the people. To protect States' autonomy, an amendment to article 248 should be made to the effect that the legislature of a State should have exclusive power to make any law with respect to any matter not enumerated in the Union or Concurrent List, as against the present provision which reserves this right to Parliament. In other words, the residual powers of the federation should lie with the units and not with the Centre.

17.27 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The States have to act in such a way while exercising their full rights in their own sphere that they do not transgress the spheres allotted to the Central Government; the latter too, on its part, should not interfere in the sphere of the States, both legislative and executive. Article 249 giving

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power to Parliament to legislate on a subject in the State List under the plea of national interest should be deleted.

While enlarging the scope of the States' sphere, we must also try to preserve and strengthen the Union authority by subjects that could be carried out by the Union authority and not by any single state, such as defence, foreign affairs, including foreign trade, currency and communications and economic coordination. The role of the Centre should be one of coordination. In areas such as planning, fixing of prices, wages, etc. the Centre may not only coordinate but also issue general direction.

In the matter of planning and economic coordination, however the Centre will have to conform to the general guidelines laid down by the National Development Council, in which the States will have representation along with the Centre. At the moment, neither the Council nor the Planning Commission is specifically referred to in the Constitution. This lacuna may be closed by introducing a separate Article which should also state clearly that the composition of the Planning Commission will be determined by the National Development Council. Loans and grants for developmental purposes are now the prerogative of the Planning Commission. It is thus important that the State have some say in the manner of operation of the Commission. But nothing beyond foreign relations, defence, communications, currency and related matters should be the exclusive domain of the Centre. The latter should help the States develop in their own way, with more powers and resources at their command.

Governors are acting as representatives of the ruling parties. They are encouraging defections. In 1958 the Government of Kerala was toppled

when Mrs. Gandhi was the President of the Congress. They could not even defect one single person from the ruling party. The Government was dismissed under the pretext of law and order. The first shot against provincial autonomy was fired by none else than Mrs. Gandhi, the well-known lady toppler. I called her lady toppler in 1969. Now after a decade she has become lady toppler with vengeance.

The future of our democracy is closely linked up with the preservation of the democratic rights of the States and the Government is out to suppress these rights with impunity. Rajya Sabha has expressed concern at the toppling affairs. Mrs. Gandhi has no respect for democracy. She has her own definition of democracy. I do not know whether Mrs. Gandhi will pay heed to the concern expressed by Rajya Sabha.

Mr. Pranab Mukherjee has said that he will force the Government of Bengal to implement the Preventive Detention Act. Blackmarketeers were arrested during Emergency but their names were not given. Many of them were released under suspicious circumstances. Charges were brought before the State Assembly of Kerala that some Ministers have taken bribe for releasing the arrested blackmarketeers. You want this Bill to be implemented by West Bengal Government! The present laws are enough to arrest the law-breakers and they are already doing it. But the question is whether the centre is prepared to help them. But the Centre does not want to use this ordinary law but instead they want to bring preventive detention for political ends.

SHRI N. G. RANGA (Guntur):
Not for political purpose.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:
A reappraisal of Centre State relations is quite essential.

The Government should give up the present method of dealing with the State Governments. Half of the State Governments are headed by non-Congress parties. Therefore, it is imperative that a dialogue should be initiated with the Chief Ministers as well as political parties in the country so that proper democratic norms of Centre-State relations can be evolved in the country. It also has its own bearing on the unity and the integrity of the country. I would appeal to the democratic sense of all the Members of the House to support this motion so that provincial autonomy in the country is maintained. However, if the Central Government continues its present policy of showing scant regard to the democratic norms that govern the State-Centre relations the tension between the Centre and State Governments will continue and the future of democracy will be at stake.

I hope the House will take into consideration all this and will pass this Resolution so that there should be a re-appraisal of the whole policy pursued in our country.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"This House is of the opinion that a reappraisal of the existing Centre-State relations with a view to give more financial powers and greater autonomy for the States in consonance with the true concept of federalism is necessary and in this context calls upon the Central Government to immediately convene a Conference of Chief Ministers along with representatives of recognised political parties."

There is an amendment moved by Shri Nadar.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR (Trivandrum): I beg to move:

"That in the resolution,—
after "is necessary" insert—
"and a strong Central Govern-

ment is an utmost necessity under the present state of national and international affairs in India". (1)

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI (Ame-
thi): We have just heard a tirade. It is understandable that when there are parties whose influence is limited to a small local area, they would like more power for themselves because they cannot exercise their powers beyond their small border. But there is a great danger in increasing the powers of a State. I want to give a specific example of what happened in Uttar Pradesh. Not very long ago an incident had happened on the 14th of last month. There was a bus going in a village called Narainpur in the District of Deoria of Uttar Pradesh. It knocked down an old lady. The villagers surrounded the bus and demanded compensation. They were taken to the police ostensibly to work out a settlement.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur): It is an irrelevant example.

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: It is very relevant. As a communist you should appreciate it.

They were taken to the police station ostensibly to make a settlement. The Lok Dal M.L.A. of the area represented the State Government; his name is Shri Bankey Lal. I am sorry, I have to name him. It is not usual to name some one but in such a serious situation, it is necessary. The negotiations were held, and after the negotiations were held the police caught the negotiators and beat them. Not only beat them, the Muslim members that were there, their beards were pulled out. They were pulled out in such a way that in a large number of cases the skin came up with the beard. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Do not interrupt.

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: The Hindu members that were there, their choties were pulled off. Some of them have lost part of their scalps with their choties. After that Shri Bankey Lal took a team of 200 police men and P.A.C. men, surrounded the village. As they entered the village the first person they encountered was Posh-e-Imam of village. The police probably wanted to show that they do not discriminate against anybody. The Posh-e-Imam was the first man to be beaten up. The M.L.A. entered the house and went to sleep. In the meantime, the police went to each house and each house was broken down. That village has more than 250 houses. Not one House has remained intact. Every house has been broken. Not one woman, minor or major, has been left without being raped (*Interruptions*). Old women, who were too old to be raped, were beaten up and a number of them had their bones broken. They were lying there for more than a week with their bones broken. The D.M. and the police of the local area came and said, "We will give them aid." They took away these women. Four women were taken away from the village. They did not take them to the hospital. Nobody knows where they have been taken. They have all disappeared. While the rape was going on, one old Harijan man was thrown into a well. He died there. Four others were killed. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is to be recorded without my permission.

(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: Yesterday when I visited the village, 90 per cent of the women have not been able to come back to the village. The reason they gave is that the State Government has posted the same policemen for their protection who had raped them. A judge has been asked to order an enquiry into the incident. It is the same district judge who refused to give

these people bail. All these people were arrested. The same district judge that cooperated with the police and refused to give these poor people bail has been appointed by the State Government to enquire into the matter. Do those poor villagers have any faith in the State Government there? Do those women have been raped and do those girls who have been raped— young girls of 11 and 12 years have been raped—have any faith in the State Government there? The State Government is providing them with no protection. The State Government has not even ordered that outside police force should come. They want the local police to come. The only people who have gone there to help the villagers have been the Youth Congress workers. No other party was willing to go and the State Government has done nothing there. When such situation prevail, is it possible to give the State Governments more powers? Is it desirable? Where a State Government misbehaves, where the State Government uses its powers to molest poor women and to beat old women, in such a situation, it is desirable only to reduce the powers of the State Governments and to arm the Central Government with powers to protect the poor people, to protect the poor women and to protect the young girls. It is sheer irresponsibility the opposition party has shown by their total lack of concern for such heinous incidents. (*Interruptions*). I do not think any opposition party, any person who was elected by the people of India, would have the gumption to get up and talk like this when they hear of 10 and 11 year old girls being raped, when they hear a whole village being destroyed, when they hear of the whole moral character of village being ruined. This is the first time that such a heinous thing has happened in the whole of India. Even during the time of the British it has never happened that a whole village has been obliterated. It is important that such poor people should get protection and the Centre should have the power to give them

protection. The Centre should have the power to go out to any poor people who demand protection. The people in these villages are demanding it. In Western U.P. there is no shortage of diesel, there is no shortage of kerosene. Whatever was given to Eastern U.P. has been diverted to Western U.P. and the only excuse given by our Minister is that he can do nothing about it. He gives the quota to the State and the Government distributes it to whomsoever they like. When the State Government turns vindictive and when the State Government gives the quotas only to those people who voted for them, is it not the duty of the Central Government to protect the poor people? Is it not necessary for the Central Government to have the power to protect the people? It is important that the Centre should have the power to protect the poor people wherever the poor people demand protection. (*Interruptions*). Our Communist Members are scared of the Centre. Maybe they think that if the Centre can go there, rigging will not take place. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: That is not the way. You will have you rsay when your turn comes.

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: Are not the Centre's powers required... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI GULSHER AHMED: Sir, there is a convention that when a maiden speech is made by an hon. Member no interruption should be made (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Halder, you are a very seasoned politician. You should not speak while sitting there all the time interrupting.

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: Sir, a lot of other things have been said, I could answer them, but I do not wish to dilute the incident that happened in Narainpur. I do not wish that when poor people are bulldozed, when they are killed, their bones are broken.

Another incident also happened there. My Janata Party friends may not think it very heinous. But when these people were in the police station and the Muslims asked for reading namaz, they were taken out and two lines were made, one of Muslims and one of Hindus and each was made to urinate in the mouth of the other. These are all incidents that had happened in Narainpur, these are all incidents that had happened with the active backing of the State Government. The Chief Minister of U.P. on the floor of the House said that nothing had happened and his own Minister had to get up and contradict him. His own Minister had to say that 'I had to hang my head in shame when I saw what happened'. Sir, in such a situation where even a Minister of the State Government wants Central protection, is it not necessary to arm the Central Government with powers to protect the poor people, to protect the helpless and to protect the Harijans?

AN HON. MEMBER: To bulldoze them? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: To protect them against the bulldozer of the State Government so that the poor people have a sense of security, so that the poor people can look up for protection. The poor people in Narainpur today cannot even look up at anybody when they speak. They say: "We have lost our sense of shame". They say that 'we have nothing more to look forward in life'. None of the girls can return to this village because they say that if they return to the village, they will never get married. They have to go to other villages and live under assumed identities. So, if in such a situation the Centre cannot help, then there is no need for a Central Government, then there is no need for a State Government. And all we will have in this country is anarchy. Thank you.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to a very serious matter. If what the hon. Member

[Shri Chandrajit Yadav]

has said is true, then really it is a matter of shame for the whole country. (Interruptions).

AN HON. MEMBER: It is true, it is my constituency. I know it for a fact.. (Interruptions).

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: It is a matter of very great shame. When the hon. Member held a press conference yesterday and said that girls were raped, I talked to the Chief Minister because it is a very serious matter. He told me that two high officials who happened to be Scheduled Caste, the Secretary of Social Welfare and a D.I.G. were sent, and they have reported that so far as the rape cases are concerned, there is no truth in it. If they are true, these are harrowing facts. So, I request you to constitute a Committee of this House because it is a very serious matter if these facts are true, because it is a matter of shame to everybody that ten and eleven year-girls are raped. It is better to constitute a Committee of this House. Let the Committee go into all the details and report to the House for strong actions. It is a serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very good suggestion. I will consider it.

SHRI N. G. RANGA (Guntur): It is for the Government and not for the House.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a suggestion he has made. The Home Minister will consider it.

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: I would like to add that a Committee may be constituted, but let it consist mainly of women Members to whom the women there will be willing to talk openly.

SHRI C.P.N. SINGH (Padrauna): This is a very important matter, and I have been trying to raise it under every rule of this House, but I have

not been able to do it. I agree that a Committee may go into the matter, but the Centre should be able to send somebody immediately to alleviate the grievance of the residents of Narainpur village in my constituency.

MR. SPEAKER: It is for the Government to do it. The Home Minister is sitting here. He has taken note of everything.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): On the merits of the case, the Chief Minister of U.P. had sent his own Minister to go and enquire into the matter. He has come and made a statement on the floor of the Assembly corroborating what Mr. Sanjay Gandhi and other people have said.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister will take note of it.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): The Home Minister has got every right, when it has been corroborated, to intervene immediately.

MR. SPEAKER: It is under his consideration.

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH rose—

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

SHRI C.P.N. SINGH**.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI (Sitapur) rose—

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI

श्री कमला मिश्र मधुकर (मोतीहारी) : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूँ। इसलिए कि इस प्रस्ताव में यह मांग की गई है कि देश में 30 वर्षों के बाद और जनता राज्य के बाद जो नई

स्थिति पैदा हुई है, उसको दृष्टि में रखते हुए केन्द्र और राज्यों के संबंधों का फिर से मूल्यांकन किया जाए। उसमें एक नए मेम्बर जी ने कुछ बातें कहीं हैं, वे तथ्य की बातें हो सकती हैं, उसमें कोई ऐतराज नहीं हो सकता है, लेकिन यदि उससे यह निष्कर्ष निकाला जाए कि केन्द्र को और मजबूत किया जाए, ताकि वह राज्यों में हस्तक्षेप कर सके, तब तो फिर संविधान को बदल दीजिये और नया संविधान बनाइए और देश में युनिटरी सिस्टम लागू कर दीजिए, ताकि केन्द्र को जब चाहे हस्तक्षेप करने का अधिकार रहे।

लेकिन इस समय तो यह अधिकार नहीं है। इस समय तो संघ और राज्यों में वित्तीय सवालों पर युनिटरी सिस्टम ही काम करता रहा है। हमारा राज्य बिहार है, जो बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ राज्य है वहां के तमाम साधन जो केन्द्र के अधीन आते हैं, यदि इस समय उन साधनों का फिर से मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जायगा, बटवारे के सम्बन्ध में, तब तो फिर बिहार पिछड़ा ही रह जाएगा।

माननीय सदस्य यह कहें कि बिहार से केन्द्र को सब कुछ मिले, लेकिन बिहार का हिस्सा न मिले, वे ऐसा कह सकते हैं, लेकिन मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ कि उन का ऐसा कहना न्यायिक नहीं है। केरल में, पश्चिमी बंगाल में, बिहार में तथा अन्य राज्यों में केन्द्र को वित्तीय मामलों में अधिक अधिकार है और एक तरह से वित्तीय मामलों में केन्द्र राज्यों को भिक्षा देता है, जिस से उन राज्यों के विकास में बाधा आती है। ऐसी स्थिति में यह जरूरी हो जाता है कि हम राज्यों और केन्द्र के सम्बन्धों का फिर से मूल्यांकन करें।

इस प्रस्ताव में ऐसी कोई बात नहीं है जिस में यह कहा जाय कि केन्द्र को कमजोर कर के राज्यों को अधिक अधिकार देने की बात कहीं गई है। इस में बात केवल मूल्यांकन को है। आज जो नये सन्दर्भ पैदा हो गये हैं, नई स्थिति पैदा हो गई है, जनता की नई आकांक्षायें पैदा हुई हैं—उन सब को दृष्टि में रखते हुए केन्द्र और राज्यों के सम्बन्धों पर फिर से विचार किया जाये। मैं नहीं समझता हूँ कि इतनी सी बात से किसी माननीय सदस्य को ऐतराज हो सकता है। यह ऐसा विषय है जिस में किसी भी प्रकार का विवाद नहीं होना चाहिये तथा दूसरे प्रकार का निष्कर्ष नहीं निकालना चाहिये। इसलिये मैं चाहूँगा कि सरकार के लोग इस बात पर विचार करें और इस प्रस्ताव को सर्वसम्मति से पारित करें। हिन्दुस्तान में जनतन्त्र को फलना-फूलना है और संघीय स्थिति को बढ़ने देने की तमन्ना है। हम सब यहीं चाहते हैं कि केन्द्र और राज्यों के सम्बन्ध मधुर बनें, संघ तथा राज्य के अधिकारों का फिर से मूल्यांकन किया जाय, जिस से राज्य के लोग यह महसूस करें कि केन्द्र हमारे साथ कोई अन्याय करने वाला नहीं है। यह प्रस्ताव जनतांत्रिक अधिकारों को बढ़ाने वाला है, इस से केन्द्र और राज्यों के सम्बन्ध और ज्यादा घनिष्ट होंगे। हम जानते हैं—सोशलिस्ट केन्द्रीय में, विशेष कर सोवियत यूनियन में, राज्य सरकारों

को बहुत ज्यादा अधिकार मिले हुए हैं, लेकिन वहां केन्द्र और राज्यों के सम्बन्धों में कभी कोई प्राबलम नहीं आई, कम से कम आसाम जैसी स्थिति कभी पैदा नहीं हुई। अनेक राज्यों में आप की सरकारें हैं, फिर आप राज्यों को अधिक अधिकार दिये जाने से क्यों घबरा रहे हैं। इस प्रस्ताव में घबराने की कोई बात नहीं है।

मैं पूरे हाऊस से अपील करूँगा कि सब लोग मिल कर इस प्रस्ताव को पारित करें ताकि हिन्दुस्तान की नई राजनीतिक अवस्था को दृष्टि में रखते हुए, नई वित्तीय आवश्यकता के अनुसार संघ और राज्य के सम्बन्धों को फिर से मूल्यांकन हो और राज्यों को अधिक से अधिक वित्तीय सहायता और अधिकार मिलने की गुंजाइश हो सके।

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the resolution that has been brought before the House by Shrimati Suseela Gopalan is on a subject, which is quite old and which has been discussed time and again on the floor of the House, not once but many times. The wordings of the Constitution show its federal character. The Constitution of India has been put to test on several occasions. The hon. member, belonging to a political party, which does not believe even in the existence of the Constitution, has made a statement referring to a statement reported to have been made by a Minister in West Bengal. I quite remember, even right from the days of Mr. A. K. Gopalan—I was a member of the House here—this very party, the CPM party, has categorically stated and announced that the Constitution of India should be not only changed lock, stock and barrel, but the very same people have mutilated and showed disrespect to the Constitution on several occasions. (Interruptions).

AN HON. MEMBER: Can you cite an example?

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I do not understand the recent statements made by non-Congress (I) Chief Ministers. They want to make a sort of consortium to overthrow the Central Government which is legally constituted. Recently, these statements have appeared in the *Indian Express* (Interruptions) I know the character of the political party and its leaders. We are not accustomed to that. We res-

[Shri K. Lakkappa]

pect the letter and the spirit of the Constitution. We have never tried to mutilate and deface the Constitution.

I know, you are having an alliance for the last 2½ years with the Janata Party and you are exercised on the subject and, under the guide of getting financial resources, you are coming forward with this kind of a resolution. I know the strategy of the CPM and its policies either in Kerala or in West Bengal. I know where your roots are. You talk about defections. I cannot understand that. The first defector in the country, if there is anybody, is only Mr. Charan Singh. It is only Mr. Charan Singh who engineered defections in this country. I can say, he is the father of defections. You go through the history. I cannot understand the logic of talking about defections and having an alliance with the Janata Party. You talk about morals and scruples. I know the characteristics of your party.

The Rajamanar Committee Report on Centre-State relationship was discussed time and again on the floor of the House. May I point out for the benefit of the hon. Members that it was after 1967 that different parties started to rule the States under the federal character of our Constitution. At that time, when there was only the Congress Government at the Centre, not only the Constitution was respected but the spirit of the Constitution was also put to test and the running of the administration was within the purview of the Constitution. Now, after 1967, with different political parties and political ideologies, even anti-national activities and ugly scenes have started in the corner the south, in Kerala and in West Bengal. The demand for more State autonomy, more powers, more resources and all these things have now started coming up.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member may continue his speech next time.

17.59 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATION UNDER CUSTOMS ACT, 1962

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): Sir, on behalf of Shri Jagannath Pahadia I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. 347/7/78/TRU (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st February 1980 exempting coffee, falling under Heading No. 1 of the Second Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 when exported out of India, from so much of the duty of customs leviable thereon under the said Second Schedule as is in excess of Rs. 570.00 per quintal, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-235A/80].

18.00 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE. RECENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, I raise a discussion on the recent political development in Afghanistan and the resultant escalation of tension in this area. The recent development in Afghanistan cannot be and should not be viewed in isolation. They are to be viewed in conjunction with the wide range of events which have taken place on the international plane in recent times. Then and then alone will it be possible to make a proper and correct appraisal of the situation and correct conclusion can be drawn.

Among the wide range of events, I propose to mention a few.

As you know, ever since the April Revolution of 1978 in Afghanistan, Afghanistan became the target of conspiracies provocations, counter-revolution, sabotage and subversion, and