

[श्री हरिकेश बहादुर]

तमाम हरिजनों को जो बेकार है, तमाम आदिवासियों को जो बेरोजगार हैं—उन्हें वह जमीन दी जा सके ताकि उन की बेरोजगारी दूर हो। मैं मांग करूंगा कि वह पहले अपने अन्दर आंतरिक विश्लेषण करे और देखे कि इस प्रकार की स्थिति में कितने लोग हैं। आपको पता चल जाएगा कि आप के नीति-निदेशक लोगों की परिधि में भी ऐसे लोग आते हैं। इस लिये यदि सचमुच में सरकार को बेरोजगारी दूर करना है तो सब से पहले उन भूमिचोरों को, चाहे वे किसी भी पार्टी के हों, किसी भी राज-नीतिक दल के हों, देखना पड़ेगा। यदि सही तरीके से भूमि का वितरण हुआ तो मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि बहुत से हरिजनों तथा आदिवासियों की परेशानियां दूर होंगी।

आज आदिवासियों की क्या स्थिति है? आज में जहां कांग्रेस की सरकार है वहां पर उन लोगों पर गोलियां चलाई गई, जिस में 30-35 आदिवासी मारे गये। इंडियन एक्सप्रेस की रिपोर्ट में है—60 मारे गये लेकिन इस सरकार की रिपोर्ट में 20 आदिवासियों के मरने की बात कही गई है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member may continue next time. Now, we take up Half-an-Hour Discussion.

श्री मनोराम बागड़ी (हिसार) : सभापति महोदय, आज 5-6 किसान यहां पर नारे लगा रहे थे और उन को पकड़ लिया गया है। वे बेचारे दबी हो रहे हैं। मेरा कहना यह है कि उनको छोड़ दिया जाए क्योंकि उनके घोट पर ही हम यहां चुन कर आए हैं और यहां बैठे हुए हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will be making an announcement on that.

17.30 hrs.

# HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

## REVIEW OF HISTORY AND LANGUAGE TEXT-BOOKS.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao): Mr. Chairman, Sir, as I was saying it is neither good, nor pleasant to make any reference to the previous government, the regime of the Janata Party Government. One does not really enjoy it. But whilst we are discussing on this question, on the reply given to the Starred question in regard to the communal bias in the text-books, we cannot escape the reference to what had happened a few years ago. These were the years, the time during which all communal organisations—the R.S.S., the Jamaat Islami, the Christian communal organisations—had a great time. It is very important to note that whatever might have been their private views, in public they never clashed with each other. They even supported each other. The Muslim communalists and other communalists, in public, were all together and that was really very peculiar and a very unfortunate thing.

Now, Sir, I would right away say on this point that I will not be proposing here that there should be a bias of any sort in education. Therefore, I would say that I am not propounding bias of any other sort. As far as College and University education is concerned, practically there are no text-books as such but only recommended books and I would urge upon the Government to make all such books available to the students so that they can have a broad approach and broad understanding on different aspects because they are mature enough to understand various aspects. Now, coming to school text-books, that is,

upto 12th Standard, my grievance is that the students are not mature enough and therefore they cannot go and refer to many books. There should be one standard book for each subject and one has got to be selective in so far as the matter for such books is concerned. One has to keep in mind the broad policies of this country and there is a broad consensus in the matter of education, its basic approach, the idea of secularism, the idea of composite culture and scientific temper. All these things have actually been enshrined in the Constitution in Part IV-1 of the Constitution as the Fundamental Duties of the citizens. I will read out Article 51A(e), (f) and (h) of the Constitution.

"51A. It shall be the duty of every citizen of India—

(e) to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities; to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women;

(f) to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture;

(h) to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform;"

Further, the Preamble of the Constitution of India says—

"WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a (SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC) and to secure to all its citizens:"

Now, we have to make clear the principle under which education should be imparted. The children are not in a position to choose the right type of education and understand the basic theme of the imparted education. Education should be given under guidance and direction at the school level.

Sir, I was mentioning that in the previous regime unfortunate things

had happened. For instance, there were societies, well-known societies, and cultural societies which carried on seminars, sometimes published books, and brought the people on the platforms which created a certain kind of opinion which was definitely not in conformity with the Constitutional mandates. One of the ideals that was put across, which had found expression in the text-books very often, was the idea of a permanent conflict between Hindus and Muslims that under the Muslim rule there was all the time conflict with the Hindus. What I say is that it should not be published like that because it is not in accordance with the Constitution. Again I would not say that there was no conflict and that everything was well, everything was fine. It was not like that. There might have been conflicts and there were conflicts, but apart from the conflicts, there were a lot of achievements which the students must know like great things in art, in architecture, in music, etc. All these contributions they must know. Saying that the Muslim rule was a time of conflict alone is like saying that the History of Europe from 1910 to 1960 was only a history of wars and nothing else, forgetting the great growth in science, civilization and great achievements that took place at that time in that part of the world.

From these general principles, I would now come specifically how one promotes these ideals without at the same time giving a slant and without at the same time censoring the mind of the people or orienting them in a single direction. Earlier, the Government had this arrangement by which the State Governments and the Central Institution will evaluate the text-books I would like to know, what is the practice at present. Nobody seems to know whether this practice has been given a go-bye, as was done during the previous regime, or whether it has been restored. The NCERT brought eminent people, competent people to write text-books and this was really a great achievement. What was happening before that was that in the field of text-books, generally

[Shri Eduardo Faleiro]

eminent people would not come forward. Some private publishers would ask a hack writer to write a book and it would be shown to a well known writer for corrections etc. He would be told: "You make the corrections and we will put your name". The man whose name was written there as author, never wrote that book. Out of ignorance, more than anything else, he contributed to instilling this communal bias and gross and crude view of things in the text-books, and therefore, in the mind of the children. I would like to know, whether the practice which was discontinued during Janta regime, namely of encouraging the use of NCERT books, is being revived. What happened during the Janta regime was that the States were not required to use these text books, not even the schools in Delhi, even the Central schools were discouraged. These books were extremely good, they are not only used in schools, even the general reader can be interested in reading these books. If you go to the market, you will not find these books. You will be able to find these books only in the black market and you will have to pay four to five times its price.

I would like to know, what steps has the Government taken to encourage these books and to make them available in sufficient quantity so that not only the students, but even the general public are able to get hold of them. The people will be benefited a lot, because the quality of these books is extremely good.

Now, in reply to the question, the principles for evaluation of these books have not been mentioned, only the procedure has been indicated. I would like to know the principles followed while evaluating such books. Not merely that, it is more important to know, who is evaluating these books. Will you take care to see that the evaluators are people, who are without any communal bias, and they have a secular approach. What steps will you take to promote the principles

which are enshrined in the Constitution as fundamental duties, and which I have mentioned, and which will give a tone to education, which will highlight the nature of the composite culture. This is because we have all types of people in the country. What will you do to highlight this composite culture?

When I say this, I remember what George Elliot mentioned in his "History of India". That was basically written on the communal lines, that would highlight conflict between Muslims and Hindus. At some place, he will say that Muslims were oppressed and the Hindus were the oppressors, and at another place, he would say that Hindus were oppressed and Muslims were the oppressors. George Elliot said that by highlighting this conflict, Indians would realise the benefits of the British rule. That was the idea. I have no doubt about the sincerity of the people who swear for the Bhartiva Sanskrit. But we should not play in the hands of those people who want to divide us. What action is the Government going to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAU): Sir, the hon. Member has given us some ideas as to what he really wants, and what we should do. But I would like to tell him that there are so many things that we have already taken up.

All the school text-books and language books prescribed and recommended in the States and Union Territories are proposed to be reviewed from the national integration angle, before the commencement of the academic year 1982-83. This review has been undertaken on a de-centralised basis, under the overall guidance of the Government of India, and according to the guidelines prepared by NCERT. We have to de-centralise this because our work is of an enormous nature. There are thousands and thousands of books that have to be looked into. So, the work has to be decentralized.

As regards books prescribed for the universities in different courses of study, University Grants Commission has written to the Vice Chancellors of all the universities to take appropriate action in this matter. We have got certain guidelines framed by the NCERT to review school text-books.

17.42 hrs.

# MOTION RE. CONTEMPT OF THE HOUSE

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is some announcement.

As the House is aware, at about 15.50 hours to-day, six visitors calling themselves Vijay Pal Singh, Ram Mehar, Bhim Singh, Kurdiya, Rishan Singh and Jai Kavar shouted slogans from the visitors' gallery. The Watch & ward officer took them into custody immediately, and interrogated them. The visitors have made statements, but have not expressed any regret for their action.

I bring this to the notice of the House for such action as it may deem fit.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): Sir, with your permission, I would like to move this motion:

"This House resolves that the persons calling themselves Vijay Pal Singh, Ram Mehar, Bhim Singh, Kurdiya, Rishan Singh and Jai Kavar who shouted slogans at about 3.50 p.m. today from the visitors' gallery, and whom the Watch and Ward Officer took into custody immediately, have committed a grave offence and are guilty of the contempt of this House.

This House further resolves that they be let off with a stern warning on the rising of the House today."

I hope that in order to keep the dignity and decorum of the House, the Motion will be adopted.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: What are the statements which they have made?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Whatever the Chairman has to say, he has said it in the statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Details are being looked into. But now the Minister has moved this Motion.

The question is:

"This House resolves that the persons calling themselves Vijay Pal Singh, Ram Mehar, Bhim Singh, Kurdiya, Rishan Singh and Jai Kavar who shouted slogans at about 3.50 p.m. today from the visitors' gallery, and whom the Watch and Ward officer took into custody immediately, have committed a grave offence and are guilty of the contempt of this House.

This House further resolves that they be let off with a stern warning on the rising of the House today."

The Motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the Minister, Mrs. Sheila Kaul.

## HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION— Contd.

### REVIEW OF HISTORY AND LANGUAGE TEXT-BOOKS—Contd.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: NCERT has given certain guidelines for reviewing school text-books; and all passages will be removed, which promote communalism, regionalism, linguism, casteism, obscurantism and superstition. And this will achieve the objective of a composite culture, as the hon. Member was saying. It will also bring in scientific temper, as referred to by the hon. Member. For