

One is West Bengal and another is Kerala. You don't find the virus of casteism in these two States. Even though Mr. Samar Mukherjee still wants to have his surname 'Mukherjee' to his name, but I think to a great extent the communist ideology was responsible for containing casteism in these two States. But in other States it is terribly rampant and that politicians are exploiting it to their advantage to perpetuate casteism.

Sir, Mr. Desai wanted the prohibition of using the name of caste, it is all right; prohibition of using the name of the community is all right. But when it comes to prohibition of using the name of the region, I am not able to understand. How can I change my leader's name, Mr. Stephen, and some others' name? Also, how can I change Mr. Jaffer Sharief's name so as to transform himself to be a person without any religion? These are impracticable things. But one fact remains. He said: "prohibition on indication of caste, community, religion and region". He said that neither religion can be mentioned, but the very name itself sometimes gives a religious connotation. So, Sir, it is a good beginning and every one should strive to see that these caste barriers are cut and then only we can have a casteless society. Sir, the Government has to take certain concrete steps in this regard. They have to encourage inter-caste and inter-religious marriages and there must be some encouragement and incentives to be given so that you may remove this caste system entirely from this country. Unless that is done by this Bill or by any such thing, you will not be able to abolish or remove this monster of a casteism that is being perpetrated by certain interests for ages together.

18.24 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Venkatasubbiah you may continue later.

ASSENT TO BILL

SECRETARY: Sir, I lay on the Table the Special Courts Bill, 1979, passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current session and assented to.

18.25 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROHIBITION POLICY IN STATES

MR. SPEAKER: We now come to Half-an-Hour discussion. Mr. Faleiro:

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on this half-an-hour's discussion on prohibition, may I say at the very outset to make a point that the prohibition policy has failed everywhere in the world including USA and USSR where the law enforcing machinery is much stronger than in this country. As far as this country is concerned, it was the Prime Minister when he was the Chief Minister of the erstwhile Bombay State who introduced prohibition there. This is a State which is adjacent to my own territory. One does know that ultimately it failed to such an extent that this policy had to be given up in Maharashtra. I am told by Members from Maharashtra that it was a Chief Minister of Maharashtra, who today is a Member of this House, who said at a press conference that he had a meeting with the prohibition lobby, and in that meeting he found that the bootlegger lobby was represented in strength, and the people who manufactured illicit liquor were the persons strongly in favour of prohibition.

The longest period of prohibition has been in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. Studies show that deaths on account of the consumption of illicit liquor has been the highest in the country in these two states.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): A large number of people died during the first election in my own constituency.