

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is the procedure. Mr Daschowdhury

SHRI B. K DASCHOWDHURY:
Mr. Chairman

MR. CHAIRMAN: You move a motion to adjourn the debate

SHRI B K. DASCHOWHURY: Let me explain the position. We have come to this conclusion at the request of the Government. So, the question of balloting does not come, because I may get a chance in the first ballot itself in the coming two months or I may not get a chance in the coming three years, in that case, what will be fate of the Bill? On the specific assurance of the Government, the Bill is remaining pending. As a matter of right, I have not yet replied to this debate. It is only a question of convenience. The moment Government will be in a position to ascertain the views of this Committee, the Government will come forward and the time will be fixed up.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: We can have a compromise that the debate be adjourned so that Rule 109 will not apply. It need not go to the ballot. Government also wants this matter. Let the debate be adjourned.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you moving this?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: Yes. I move.

"That the debate on this Bill be adjourned."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is

"That the debate on this Bill be adjourned."

The motion was adopted.

16.23 hrs.

NATIONAL RIFLE TRAINING SCHEME BILL

SHRI S. C SAMANTA (Tamiluk):
Mr Chairman, Sir, I beg to move*

"That the Bill to provide for compulsory training in rifle-shooting to all able bodied citizens between the age of twenty and thirty years, be taken into consideration"

In the 'Statement of Objects and Reasons' I have given the reasons for bringing this Bill. On 5th March 1954, in this House a Resolution was passed. That Resolution runs thus

"This House is of the opinion that, with a view to inculcate discipline, marksmanship initiative and leadership in the youth of India, Government should immediately provide proper and practicable facilities to rifle training institutions in India"

Sir, so far as I know, something has been done by the Government. But my intention is that those things which have been done and which are to be done should be codified. That is why, I have brought this Bill. My Bill is framed according to the Resolution that was passed. You will see that my Bill deals with "Persons to whom Act applies" "Compulsory Rifle Training Scheme",

16.25 hrs.

[SHRI N K P. SALVE in the Chair]

Advisory Committees, power to remove difficulties, penalty for non-compliance and scheme to be laid before Parliament. These are the objects of my Bill.

As you know, a man when he is born, has a right to live. In order to live peacefully, he has to defend himself. So is the case with a nation. Nations should be saved. We know

*Moved with the recommendation of the President

we are being attacked by other people from outside our land and for defence we wage a war and our people go forward and we have to defend ourselves also. So, in the circumstances, civil defence is the necessity. Generally, civil defence arrangements are being made when war is going on. But, for the safety of the civilian people, every able-bodied young man, I have mentioned, between the age of 20 and 30, should be compulsorily given training in rifle.

This rifle training was according to the resolution that was passed in 1954. I was associated with that resolution. My friend, Shri Ramchandra Reddy from Nellore, brought this resolution on civilian rifle training scheme and I gave an amendment. This amendment of mine was passed. So, I have been looking forward as to what the Government is doing in pursuance of the resolution that was passed.

After the resolution was passed, the Government established a Central Board for promotion of civilian rifle training scheme. The Chairman of the Board, as it stood in 1968, was the hon. Home Minister and four Members of Parliament and certain officers of different Ministries of the Government of India were members. I do not know whether that Board is still in existence. The Government also started bringing out one 'Civilian Rifle Training News'. I have got the first copy of that News. Then, there is no further issue. I do not know. I tried to have some recent copies of that from our library but the library could not supply. So, I think it is not being published at present. About the Civilian Rifle Training Scheme, Mr. Y. B. Chavan, the then Home Minister wrote:

"The two aggressions that we have experienced during the last 5 years have created unawareness among us for the urgency of having self-reliance in every respect. In an emergency, mobilisation of men and material assumes greatest importance."

In an emergency, the second line of defence should always be ready. There is need to train civilians for this pur-

pose. This will stand ready to defend the country as a second line of defence in an emergency. Then he says:

"Inevitably, our success in this regard depends on the preparations made for such an eventuality during the peace time.... The Civilian Rifle Training Scheme has been conceived with a realistic understanding of our requirements for an emergent situation. I am sure that the Government of India as well as the Governments of various States would do their best to make the scheme a success. The people in their turn, would have to come forward enthusiastically to avail themselves of the facilities offered under the Scheme."

Therefore, about this Scheme, Government is at one with the others. But this organisation of the rifle training which has been accepted by the Government has not been codified so far. So, for such codification I have brought up this piece of legislation for the acceptance of the honourable House.

Regarding the Civil Rifle Training Scheme, in August 1963, the Minister of Home Affairs forwarded to the State Governments a revised scheme for intensifying the training of civilians in the use of rifles. It was because the Rifle Training Scheme which was originally introduced in 1954 did not make the desired headway due to various reasons. Government has admitted about the need for such a Bill as this one.

The basic objectives of the Civil Rifle Training Scheme are as follows:

It educates the youth of the nation to be good marksmen. It encourages healthy sport. It prepares the citizens for self-defence. It inculcates in them a sense of participation in the country's defence. Regarding the Central Civilian Rifle Training Board, I doubt whether that Board is functioning now or not, I want to know whether its composition has changed in any way. If not, I would like to

[Shri S. C Samanta]

know the names of the Members of the Board. What are its functions? Are the States bound to assist the Rifle Associations?

Regarding the supply of ammunition, especially .22 bore rifles, I would like to know the present position, .22 bore rifles were not being supplied earlier. I would like to know as to what progress has been made regarding the supply of these rifles and other ammunition. Are the Rifle Clubs being encouraged by the Police Who controls and supervises the execution of this scheme? I have definitely provided here in this Bill that there should be some checking authority.

I have also provided for the content of training, namely how to handle the rifle, how to clean and maintain a rifle, how to fire a rifle, the elements of ballistics such as speed, range, trajectory, impact and utility of common rifles and the 12-bore gun

On the whole, my object is very simple. Actually, Government should have brought forward the codification Bill but they have not done so

As you would recall, the resolution was passed in 1954 and now we are at the end of 1972 and yet no codification has been done.

Therefore, I propose that this Bill should be taken into consideration and passed

MR CHAIRMAN Motion moved

"That the Bill to provide for compulsory training in rifle-shooting to all able-bodied citizens between the age of twenty and thirty years, be taken into consideration"

SHRI B K. DASCHOWDHURY (Cooch-Bihar) I beg to move

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 31st March, 1973" (1)

SHRI SUBODH HANSDA (Midnapore): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for compulsory training in rifle-shooting to all able-bodied citizens between the age of twenty and thirty years, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of 10 Members, namely Shri S. M Banerjee, Shri Dharnidhar Basumatari, Shri Jyotirmoy Bose, Shri M. C. Daga, Shri Samar Guha, Shri Shyam Sunder Mohapatra, Shri S. M. Siddayya, Shri Shankar Dayal Singh, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, and Shri Subodh Hansda with instructions to report by the last day of the second week of the next session" (5)

MR CHAIRMAN These amendments are also before the House now

Now, Shri Ajit Kumar Saha

SHRI B K. DASCHOWDHURY I thought I would be speaking first, because the first amendment is in my name. Moreover, I have certain other business also to attend to.

MR CHAIRMAN The hon Member must wait for his chance. It is not the rule that he should be called first. The tabling of an amendment does not entitle him *suo motu* to a chance

*SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA (Vishnupur) Shri Samanta has introduced his Bill on the National Rifle Training Scheme in this House. I extend my support to this Bill and I hope Government will also accept the same

Sir, in the objects and reasons of the Bill, Shri Samanta has referred to the Chinese aggression and the weaknesses of our defence preparedness. But we know that apart from the Chinese aggression the country was subjected to two aggressions by Pakistan—one

*The Original Speech was delivered in Bengali

in 1865 and the other in 1871. While these subsequent aggressions were ignored, reference has been confined only to the Chinese aggression—I do not know why? I feel that all these aggressions should have also been mentioned.

In his Bill Shri Samanta has suggested that rifle training should be given to able bodied citizens within the age limits of 20 and 30 years. I would in this connection suggest that instead of the proposed provision, training should be imparted to the youth of the country, the villagers, the working class and others from the age of 16 and onwards. At present some training is being given in schools and colleges but this does not cover the vast majority of the able bodied youth in the country. During the British regime, we had seen, that the jotdars, zamindars and the aristocracy only enjoyed the privilege of owning licences for fire arms and it was they or their sons who had the benefits of the knowledge of the use of fire arms. The same situation unfortunately continues even now. The poor toiling class, the factory workers and a large section of the youth are still being denied the opportunity of getting rifle training.

Sir, Shri Samanta has also suggested that this training should be given at District and at sub-division levels. I would go a step further and suggest that this scheme for rifle training should be imparted at the level of the panchayats. 80% of the population of India live in the villages and it is necessary that the villagers, the factory workers and the vast majority of the toiling class should be brought within the compass of this scheme so that all these men are able to contribute their mite for the defence of the country.

With these words I extend my support to this Bill and hope that Government would also accept it.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY
(Cooch-Behar): I must express my deep appreciation of the Motion brought

forward by the Mover of the Bill and when I do so, it is quite clear that I extend my wholehearted support to this Bill. As a matter of fact, the idea of this Bill, as explained by the hon. Mover and the hon. member who preceded me, is nothing new. In various other forms, the Government of India have been doing such things so that it may help us to have physical fitness and discipline in able-bodied persons who can stand and defend the country at all times. So the idea behind this service is nothing new.

If we go back to the history of this, every time it was the society and the people who came forward to defend the motherland in times of need. In those earlier days, all the people came forward and fought for the country to save its integrity and sovereignty.

Subsequently, with the advent of new forms of civilisation and sophistication, with the advancement of science and technology and with the progress of industrialisation, society had to be divided into several parts. Because of the constraint of economic development, many people could not give full-hearted support for the defence of the country because both the forces clashed. There was a division on the basis of avocation, skill, their knowledge of technology and all that. Even then, defence of the motherland was a universal idea with a universal force behind it. It was agreed that unless the people of a particular country were in a position to defend their motherland, there could not be any growth of civilisation, there could not be any idea of an egalitarian society.

What do we find from the records of the Government? This idea was mooted several times. The most experienced member present here regarding rifle training, Dr. Karni Singh, can speak about it much better than I. In 1951, there was an Association—I do not know what happened since then—know as the National Rifle Association, formed by Government.

DR. KARNI SINGH (Bikaner): It is existing.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDEURY: It is still there? That was why I referred to him with all respect, because he knows it better than I and he is an expert in this. Among the aims and objects of that Association are, (1) to impart military education, including rifle training to the young generation with a view to develop in the youth qualities of fearlessness, discipline, esprit de corps, resourcefulness and public service, (2) to impart knowledge of physical culture and sports to build up a healthy body, steady mind and eyes, goodness and self-confidence, (3) to organise or reorganise the military academy, (4) to popularise knowledge and proper use of firearms, (5) to popularise the use of arms in a proper manner for the purpose of self-defence and to defend the country and the motherland; (6) to disseminate the knowledge of correct aiming, particularly amongst the agricultural people and the rural people, and to enable them to protect their cattle and properties particularly in the border areas, and also from wild animals, (7) to establish or co-operate in the establishment of rifle ranges in different parts of the country, and lastly, to organise shooting competitions, excursions, and to give a new fillip to all the able-bodied persons in the country. That is exactly the spirit behind this Bill presented by our senior friend, Shri Samanta

So, what I say is that the Government is already in this process, it has simply to make it more legalised and to take effective measures, but not in this perfunctory manner. Sometimes, it is the National Rifle Association; sometimes it is a civilian rifles committee or some thing somewhere, sometimes it is the NCC, sometimes, it is compulsory training for these young boys up to a certain age, and they make it optional thereafter. The NCC training, which was made compulsory in all the educational institutions and the colleges at the university level,

nowadays has been made optional. What do we find? It is not only necessary to impart physical education and a sense of fearlessness, discipline, amongst our youth in the country including our rural people, but what we need today is there should be a sort of second line or third line and an auxiliary force to come to the help of the country whenever it is necessary.

If we look to the United States, we will find that in the regular army, the regular air force and the navy, almost 90 per cent of the persons are being recruited from such auxiliary arms or forces. They have been given this training. In the United States, all persons on attaining 18 years of age are asked to take a certain training and they must serve the defence forces whenever it is necessary.

So, is the case in Soviet Russia. In the USSR, conscription is in force for everyone reaching the age of 18 years, and the active duty period of three years is used for political indoctrination as well as military training for the defence of the country. On days when there is no political indoctrination, they have to see or prepare something for the self-defence of the country.

In Soviet Russia, I quote "Conscripts remain in progressively less active reserve components for about 15 years." In some countries, it is three and a half years, in some countries it is five years. In Soviet Russia it is 15 years.

In France, this sort of auxiliary force was there even from the time of Louis XIV. All these maritime persons well experts, were taken in the naval forces. In those days, the plying of naval ships was regarded as the best type of weapon for tactical reasons. Now, the thing has been changed, with the introduction of new methodology and scientific development of new weaponry. There is also a similar provision that, able-bodied

persons must have a sort of military training like this, rifle training for the defence of the country. The only exception is, if someone has got special reasons not to go for training, they must appear before the controlling board and on hearing from the board they may be given exemption.

In Great Britain, the same thing is there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: I am concluding. The period of conscription has been changed to certain exceptions known as mixed-conscription, that is, for some persons they must go for compulsory training, and after attainment of this training they must remain in training for at least three and a half years.

There is also the age limit, i.e. 18 years. Samanta Ji wants it between 20 and 30 years. Govt. may consider whether it should come down to 18 years or go up to 40 years or 45 years for able bodie persons. In all these countries we find that there was this training. In view of the policy so long pursued I would say in a perfunctory manner that the Govt. should come forward to place before this august House either a new Bill or the Govt. should accept this bill. This will give really very disciplined persons who will always be at service to work for the country whenever the country needs their services. With these words I hope the entire House and the Govt. will agree to accept this bill, if not let the Govt. come forward to have a new bill of their own incorporating all this. Failing that my amendment is, if the Govt. is not in a position to consider it at the moment, let the Bill be circulated for eliciting opinion thereon, at least, let the Govt. consider what are the views of the people with regard to this. With these words I thank you.

DR. KARNI SINGH (Bikaner): I would at the outset like to state that having been very closely associated with the rifle shooting movement in the country for the last 20 years and perhaps, having been a very ardent supporter of mass rifle training scheme for the country, I am sorry I have had during the last few years to do a little bit of rethinking. Although my elder colleague Mr. Samanta has introduced a bill like this now, I think ten years ago it would have had the full support of this House, but many of us today who have been very actively associated with the shooting movement have begun to doubt whether in the present context of lawlessness throughout the world, it is correct that there should be a rifle training art in the hands of people at large in the country who can misuse that knowledge. In fact it was only the other day, after having served for several years on the civilian rifle training committee, I was asked to serve on that committee again and I wrote to the Government to say that at this particular stage I was opposed to this type of training and therefore I would not like to serve on this committee.

The main reason for this was that twenty years ago there was a tremendous spirit of nationalism in this country and we were convinced about one thing, that whoever had the ability to use the firearm will use it for the sake of defending his country or society. But there are mischievous elements in this country today that are coming to the fore; it is not only in India but all over the world and people are beginning to take a second look whether in this context mass rifle training in the hands of each and everybody is the correct thing. I would only like to draw your attention to some of these strikes, lock-outs, shoot-outs, hijackings, etc. that are taking place all over the world and consider whether millions of people, instead of throwing stones were to use rifles and use them effectively, what would be the situation of of any organised government.

[SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY]

Consequently in view of that, while supporting in principle what my elder colleague Mr. Samanta has placed in the shape of the Bill, I should like to make a few reservations. Firstly, there should be no mass rifle training in the country, not for the next five years. Rifle training should be imparted either through organised Rifle clubs, or if the government were to organise mass rifle training then it should be in the borders of India or in the hill areas or other parts of India which are dacoit-infested, which are prone to lawlessness, where a citizen at large must know how to defend himself. But, for the average layman, I should suggest that rifle training be confined only through rifle clubs in the country which are very liberally given. Practically any ten citizens can get together and start a rifle club. But here again there should be certain controls imposed. Today once a rifle club is registered either through the National Rifle Association or directly, thousands of cartridges and any amount of rifles are available for rifle training. "Any ten citizens" is a very broad term. There should be some selective stipulation whereby Government must be in a position to control and see whether those ten citizens are really worthy of bearing arms and utilising it in the service of society. To give training to anybody in firearms, with its natural destructive power, in my opinion is not correct in the present atmosphere and climate. It is because of this that I am not prepared to support a Bill wide as this. Maybe five years from now, when things are established and the youths would have developed once more a spirit of staunch nationalism and we are convinced that the rifles will point only in one direction, i.e. against the enemy of the country or the enemy of society, then the time will come for mass training.

Let us not forget that if we have mass civilian rifle training, the national exchequer is going to subsidise the training. If the Government is

going to foot a part of the bill for such training, I feel Government must have some controls over the type of citizens who are given this training. Kennedy killing sparked off a re-thinking in the United States and I believe even America, which was most liberal with firearms, started curbing the possession of fire-arms. Imagine thousands of people travelling in your airlines who will probably be far more effective in hijacking. And, what about your political leaders standing on public platform and who are ready for arson, looting and killing? Therefore, the present climate in this country is not certainly suitable or correct for this type of mass training.

We may take a look at Switzerland. It is a very small country with no standing army. Everybody is imparted rifle training. Everybody is given a rifle and that is kept with him all the year round. The main reason is, whenever Switzerland is in danger, every citizen there would become the army of the country. This is not the case in India. We have a very large standing army to defend our country. We have the Home Guards, the NCC, the Territorial Army, the armed constabularies and various police personnel and I do not think India really needs a second line of defence to protect our country. We are very well protected and our armed forces are very well equipped. I do not think at this stage mass rifle training is going to give us any greater sense of security. As far as I can see, it may create a sense of insecurity. Therefore, if the hon. mover were to bring a Bill with limited training facilities, I would be very happy to support him.

In a country like India which has started a sort of drive to protect its wild life; putting an unlimited amount of arms and ammunition in the hands of unscrupulous shikaris in my opinion will destroy whatever is left of India's fauna. Therefore, limited use of weapons and weapons in the hands of the right people is what we require now.

17.00 hrs.

I can only say that the National Rifle Association has already 404 clubs affiliated to it. This is a very large number. Any club can have 100, 200 or even 2,000 members. Also, there is no dearth of training facilities in the country. I would like to place before the hon. House my contrary views on this Bill at this stage. I would not like to see in my country that any man, however irresponsible he may be, can walk up, get free rifle training at the cost of the country and then utilize that ability that he has gained against the society and against the good of the nation.

श्री सरजू बाण्डे (गाजीपुर) : सभापति जी, सदन के सामने जो बिल आया है उसका मैं समर्थन करता हूँ। इसलिए कि यह सभी को मालूम है कि अंग्रेजों ने 1857 के विद्रोह के बाद हमारे देश की जनता की हितार्थ किया अभी माननीय सचिव डा० कर्णी सिंह बोल रहे थे कि इच्छा मिसयूज हो सकता है और अगर आर्म्स की ट्रेनिंग देनी है तो लिमिटेड एरियाज में, खास तौर से उकैती वाले और दूसरे एरियाज में देनी चाहिए। मैं समझता हूँ कि जिस क्षेत्र में खास तौर से उकैती की जोर है वहाँ अगर बंदूक दे तो हर घर में इसका इस्तेमाल होगा। इसलिए यह लाजिक कुछ मेरी समझ में आई नहीं। दूसरी तरफ हमारे देश में परम्परा रही है कि प्रिविलेज्ड क्लास को ही आर्म्स मिलते रहे हैं जिनके पास धन और सम्पत्ति होती है। (अवधान) ..इस देश में राजाघाँ, जमींदारों और पूँजीपतियों को बन्दूक दी गई है और उन्होंने हमेशा खून और हत्यायों की है। हमारे सामने बिहार की मिसाल है जहाँ पर एक आदमी की हत्या कर दी गयी। वहाँ पर ऐसे लोगों को आर्म्स दिए गए हैं जो कि हमेशा के पेशेवर उकैत हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश में ऐसी मिसाल है जहाँ नेताओं की हत्या से ब्रह्मसूयों को, हिस्वीगीटरों को आर्म्स दिए गए हैं जोकि रात दिन खून करते हैं। कारण यह

है कि शासन षट है और इसमें, ओ.बी. पैसा खर्च करता है उसको बन्दूक मिल जाती है। सारे ब्रह्मसूय लोग राबफज, टामीन, प्रेनमन और रिबल्वर प्राप्त करते हैं और इसीलिए यह बर्बात होती है।

इसलिए अगर इस बात की है कि जनता पर लोगों का विश्वास करना चाहिए। हमारे देश में ऐसे घबसर घाते हैं क्योंकि हमारा देश चारों तरफ दुश्मनों से घिरा हुआ है, कभी कभी चीन की ओर कभी पाकिस्तान की ओर कभी दूसरे देशों की आँख इस पर लगी रहती है। इसलिए आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि हमारे देश की जनता को ट्रेनिंग दिया जाये और विश्वास किया जाये कि उनका मिसयूज, बुरा इस्तेमाल नहीं होगा। यदि कोई किसी चीज का मिसयूज करना ही चाहे तो उसको रोक नहीं जा सकता। फिर भी हमें अपनी जनता पर विश्वास करना चाहिए। मैं समझता हूँ अब इसका समय आ गया है। मैं नहीं समझता पाँच वर्ष में कौन सा नया परिवर्तन आ जायेगा जिसके कारण आज इस पर विचार न किया जाये इसलिए इन्तखार करने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है। आज इस देश में मेरे विचार में तमाम लोगों को राष्ट्रक ट्रेनिंग देने की आवश्यकता है। वह आवश्यकता इस लिए है कि देश में जो हमारे नौजवान हैं उनमें अनुशासन की भावना पैदा की जाये, उनमें देश के लिए लड़ने की आस्था पैदा की जाये। आज हमारे देश के नौजवानों में बिचाराव है, पस्ताहम्मती है और धीरे धीरे इन बन्दूकों का इस्तेमाल गलत तरीके से होता है। मेरी यह इच्छा है कि मन्त्री जी इस को स्वीकार करें। एक बिधेयक को तो उन्होंने अस्वीकार कर दिया एक झूठा बहाना बनाकर कि पहले जनता से पूछा जाये। अनेक बार हम देखते हैं कि सड़कों के नाम बदले जाते हैं तो उस समय किससे पूछा जाता है? इस तरह से अहर्तों

[जी सरबू बाबडे]

के नाम बने जाते हैं तो किसी पूछा जाता है इसलिए इस मामले में उस तरह का कोई बहाना न बनाकर इस बिल की स्वीकार करें ताकि देश में राष्ट्रपथ की अनिवार्य ट्रेनिंग की व्यवस्था की जा सके। बहानेबाजी से इसमें कोई फायदा नहीं होगा। जहाँ तक मिसयूज करने की बात है, हमेशा यहाँ शोध मिसयूज करते हैं जोकि शक्तिशाली होते हैं। अपनी गोली हरकतों के लिए न बन्दूकों का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। लेकिन जनता को कम से कम अपनी सुरक्षा करने के लिए इसकी आवश्यकता है। हमारे देश के नौजवानों को ट्रेन किया जाये ताकि देश पर किसी भी संकट के समय वे उसके विरुद्ध खड़े हो सकें। इसी के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI SUBODH HANSDA (Midnapore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Bill. When Dr. Karni Singh was speaking on the Bill, perhaps he had in his mind what has been happening in the last three years in the eastern region of the country. That is probably why he is opposing the Bill. But we read history, we learn from history and that teaches us how to live in future.

As the mover of the Bill rightly pointed out, in 1962, we had a very bad experience of Chinese aggression because, at that time, we were not fully prepared. Today, surely, our defence are very strong. In 1971 war with Pakistan we practically had the greatest chance and we won the war. And today Bangladesh is free.

The Bangladesh movement was there. The people of Bangladesh wanted independence. But it took a long time to get independence. It is because the youth of Bangladesh were not prepared at that time and they were to fight for their independence. It is most fortunate that after a long fight, they have got their independence.

The point today is, whether in view of something that has happened in

the past, because of that reason, the youth of the country will not have rifle training. Are we simply to give rifle training or shooting training to our youth for defence purposes only or for peaceful purposes also? Peaceful purposes are also there. I do not know whether you have heard or not that the Government has appointed shikaris to protect crops from wild life. The agriculturists are not trained in shooting. Therefore, the Government has to appoint shikaris to protect crops from wild animals.

That is not only the thing. We have got a vast border. Surely, our defence forces are very strong and they can protect our country from foreign aggression. But at the same time, we have our own duty. It is our moral duty to fight for our country. On our borders, the neighbours are highly advanced. They are not friendly to us. The relations with China are not very good. Maybe, any day, they can attack us. What will we do? It is true we have also the second-line of defence. But still, I believe, the youth of the country must be trained in rifle shooting.

Now, Dr. Karni Singh said that there is ample scope for giving rifle training. It may be so. But I feel this is nothing but a sport. Where is the chance for the common man to get the facility for rifle training? These facilities are limited only to big cities where there are rifle clubs or rifle associations. The training is so costly that it is not possible for the common man to go to a rifle club and have training there.

Then, before this training is made compulsory, the rifle shooting ranges should be provided everywhere, if it is possible. We have got the police stations; we have the national cadet corps in the colleges. They have got rifle shooting ranges in most of the places. The Government can take up all these shooting ranges and provide facilities for the common man to have training in rifle shooting. The Government should come forward to take up this because it involves a

huge expenditure. It not only involves a huge expenditure but it also concerns the youth of the country.

I feel that this Bill should be considered very carefully. Therefore, I have moved an amendment that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee. The names are mentioned in my amendment. I hope, my amendment will be accepted.

*SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER (Nilgiris): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Samantha has done a signal service to the country by bringing forward the National Rifle Training Scheme Bill, which envisages compulsory rifle training for the people of the country within the age-group of 20 to 30. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons Shri Samantha has clearly stated that with a view to strengthening and invigorating our second line of defence, it is necessary that every able-bodied male citizen of our country is taught the basic fundamentals of handling a firearm. I am sure that this alone can be the plausible reason for all of us to extend our support to this Bill. I whole-heartedly extend my willing support to this Bill. I hope that the Government will also accept the spirit behind the Bill.

Sir, during the time of Chinese aggression in 1962, the people living in the border areas were helpless because they had no training in handling the rifles. We cannot forget the humiliation we suffered then in the hands of the Chinese Army. In this connection, a reference was made to the Rifle Clubs in the country by my hon. friend Dr. Karni Singh. I have no personal knowledge of such Rifle Clubs. That is because these Rifle Clubs happen to be the exclusive preserve of rich people. No ordinary man can hope to get rifle training in such a rifle club.

The hon. Minister may refer to the existence of National Cadet Corps and the rifle training given there. You must be aware of the fact that the N.C.C. provides some people at the officer level for the Army. Then, he may also refer to the National Discipline Scheme. In this House, many hon. Members had referred to the pitiable plight of the 800 Instructors under this Scheme, whose fate had been hanging in the air as a result of giving up this Scheme. Then comes the Civil Defence under which rifle training is not given. Under the Civil Defence in all corners of the city trenches are dug on account of the imaginary fear of air-raids and training in first-aid is given so that the injured in a war can be given first-aid treatment. The Civil Defence does not make the people fit for stiff resistance in a war.

Here, I am again to refer to the Chinese Aggression in 1962 during which the Chinese Army came upto the Foot-hills of Assam without any sort of resistance from the local people and Tezpur had to be evacuated overnight for fear of Chinese occupation. The people could not organise any resistance to the Chinese unhindered march. It was not as if they lacked in ardour or in enthusiasm for defending the honour of the country. But they had no training in rifle handling and they had to remain as silent spectators of the Chinese march. This emphasises the necessity for training the people in rifle handling.

Thousands of educated youth are on the live registers of Employment Exchanges. The Government have expressed their inability to give any unemployment allowance to them on account of paucity of funds. They can be given rifle training and they can be given some stipend during the course of training. This will in a way mitigate the rigours of unemployment and at the same time they can all become useful citizens in times of emergency. This will also save them

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

[Shri J. Matha Gowder.]

from frustration of unemployment for long years.

Dr. Karni Singh referred to the possibility of rifle training giving a fillip to incidents like hijacking. This argument is untenable because the hijacking is not a common feature. Just because the soldiers in the Army are trained in shooting, they do not begin to shoot everything they come across. The stray incidents like hijacking should not be blown out of proportion. In any case, that should not be a reason for discouraging mass rifle training as envisaged in this Bill.

Even after 25 years of Independence, the rural people even now tremble at the sight of a rifle. They shiver in fright by the touch of a rifle. Since the Government are not able to give them all the protection necessary to face the hazards of life, it is necessary that they should be given rifle training en mass. Rifle training to the vast numbers of people living in rural areas will make them the sentinels of our democracy and of our freedom.

Shri Samantha has been bringing before this House many such useful and constructive legislative proposals, inspite of his advancing age. I request that the Government should either accept this Bill as it is or bring a comprehensive bill of their own envisaging mass rifle training for the people of our country so that they become a second line of defence in times of emergency.

With these words, I conclude.

DR. KARNI SINGH: The hon. Member made a reference to me. I would not get a chance to reply. Sir, in our Rifle Club movement in the country we have introduced air rifle training so that the poorest man can be trained at Rs. 1 a month. There is no such thing as cost involved.

श्री मथामथा गौडर (बंगलूर) : सभापति महोदय, आज सभे के बाद मुझ को बोलने की

जो प्रवृत्ति है वह बन्द करनी चाहिए। मैं समझता हूँ कि पहले जो सामान्यवर्गी लोग थे, या राजे महाराजे थे, उन्होंने वह सोचा था कि दूसरे लोग ट्रेनिंग नहीं ले सकते हैं। लेकिन सवाल यह नहीं है। सवाल है देश में नया अनुशासन पैदा करने का, नई सेना खड़ी कर के हमें ट्रेनिंग देनी चाहिये। आजकल लोगों में एक आत्महीनता की भावना छा गई है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह ट्रेनिंग इस लिए जरूरी है कि लोगों में एक नया बल, एक नया जोश और एक नया अनुशासन पैदा हो।

आज भी हम सुनते हैं कि गांवों में हरिजनों पर अत्याचार होते हैं, हरिजनों पर जो हमले वहाँ होते हैं उन का मुकाबला वह लोग नहीं कर सकते हैं क्योंकि उन को राइफल चलाने का ज्ञान नहीं है। आज शांतिपूर्ण हरिजनों पर अत्याचार होते हैं। मैं तो यहाँ तक कहता हूँ कि पुरुषों को ही नहीं महिलाओं को भी यह ट्रेनिंग मिलनी चाहिए।

आज हम 1400 करोड़ रुपये अपने डिफेंस पर खर्च करते हैं। इसके बजाय प्रत्येक देश का बच्चा बच्चा जानदार आदमी बन जाये और राइफल की ट्रेनिंग लिये हुए हो तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इतना पैसा देश के विकास के काम में खर्च हो सकता है। लेकिन हम में कमी भी इस बात को नहीं सोचा। पहले जो इस देश के बड़े बड़े लोग थे उन्होंने अपनी राइफल से ली, उन्होंने उस की ट्रेनिंग से ली यह समझ कर कि यह काम किसी खास जाति या कौम का है। मेरा क्या कहना है कि आज देश के 56 करोड़ लोग अपने अन्दर एक नया आत्म विश्वास और नई शक्ति पैदा करें। इस के लिये यह राइफल ट्रेनिंग सब के लिये सम्भव होनी चाहिए। जब यह सम्भव होनी लगी तो लोगों में आत्म-विश्वास पैदा होगा और एक नई सेना पैदा होगी। इस से लोगों में आत्महीनता की भावना मिट जायेगी और यह समझने कि देश की रक्षा करने की ताकत हम में ही है। आज जो हरिजन जाति लोग

हैं उन में एक इन्फ्रीरिफ्लायिंटी काम्प्लेक्स था चुका है, सेक्यूरिटी कांस्टेबल और सेक्यूरिटी ट्रेनिंग के लोग यह समझने लगे हैं कि राइफल और बन्दूक उन के बस की बात नहीं है। लेकिन यह आत्म-रक्षा का सबाल है, यह देश की रक्षा का सबाल है। कमी से बच्चा पनपता है, कठिनाइयों में इन्सान पैदा होता है। जब आप जिन्दगी की नई हालत में डालेंगे तब दिमाग बदलेगा। इस लिये देश के लोगों को यह ट्रेनिंग देनी होगी। एक नया जोश उन के दिमाग में आयेगा, नहीं तो लोगों में एक मुर्दापन आ रहा है।

इस लिये राइफल ट्रेनिंग कम्प्लेक्स होनी चाहिये। पुरुषों में ही नहीं, महिलाओं में भी होनी चाहिए और देश के बच्चे बच्चे को इस की जानकारी होनी चाहिए।

श्री भरत सिंह चौहान (धार)
सभापति महोदय, मैं इस बिल का पूर्ण रूप में समर्थन करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूँ। इस बिल का समर्थन करते समय मुझे वह दिन याद आता है जब भारत मुलाम था। तब फ्रांस एक्ट इस देश में बना हुआ था। यह कितनी लज्जा की बात है कि वह आज भी बना हुआ है। अभी तक भारत ने उस एक्ट को खत्म नहीं किया है। मैं समझता हूँ कि आज नहीं बल्कि आजादी मिलने के तुरन्त बाद अनिवार्य रूप से ट्रेनिंग देने का प्रबन्ध हो जाना चाहिए था। ऐसा अगर किया जाता तो कौम में जानुति पैदा होती और हम कौम को बलशाली बना सकते थे, उस में आत्म-विश्वास पैदा कर सकते थे। यह जो राष्ट्रीय मान थी, यह हमारी डिग्रेस के लिए भी बहुत जरूरी थी। इसकी पूर्ति होनी चाहिये। लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हुआ। आज पच्चीस साल के बाद यह बिल बहते पर धारा है। मैं दुःख से इसका समर्थन करता हूँ और निवेदन करता हूँ कि सरकार इस पर गम्भीरता से विचार करे।

कैसे जो बहुत ही राष्ट्रीय आवश्यकताएँ हैं जिन को सरकार ने पूरा नहीं किया है।

लेकिन वह जो बीज है यह बहुत जरूरी है। हमने पिछले वक्त में यह अनुभव किया है कि जब कभी हमको दुश्मन का मुकाबला करना पड़ता है हमने अपने आपको असहाय अनुभव किया है। जब कभी हम पर आक्रमण होता रहा है तब हम इस पर विचार करते रहे हैं। चीन का जब हमला हुआ था तब हमको इसकी आवश्यकता नजर आई। मैं समझता हूँ कि भारत के हर शहर और गाँव में इसकी ट्रेनिंग की स्कीम बनाई जाए। चीनी हमले के वक्त ऐसा हुआ था। तब दलपति और उपदलपति के नाम से लोग सामने आए थे और हर प्रान्त में ऐसा हुआ था। मध्य प्रदेश में गैहड़जी के आहुवान पर पांच लाख अर्ध शिक्षित युवकों को तैयार करने की स्कीम थी। इसी तरह से दूसरे प्रान्तों में भी इसकी आवश्यकता को अनुभव किया गया था और इसको चालू किया गया है।

इस वक्त ए० सी० सी० टैरिटाग्रियल धार्मी तथा क्लब्स हमारे देश में हैं। हमारे कर्मी सिंह जी ने कहा है कि बहुत जगहों पर ट्रेनिंग का प्रबन्ध है। लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि सम्पूर्ण देश में जो अनिवार्य ट्रेनिंग हानी चाहिये, वह नहीं हो पा रही है और यह जो हमारी आवश्यकता है इसकी पूर्ति नहीं हो पा रही है। इस आवश्यकता की पूर्ति करने के लिए यह बिल धारा है। जो प्रलग प्रलग राइफल ट्रेनिंग क्लब्स बनी हुई है या दूसरी सस्त्रायें हैं उनसे जो उद्देश्य है उसकी पूर्ति नहीं हो रही है। यह देश की मांग है। मुझे बड़ा ताज्जुब हुआ कि डा० कर्मी सिंह ने भय दिखाया है जो इस वक्त देश में फैला हुआ है। लेकिन जो इस बिल का उद्देश्य है उसको आपकी देखाया चाहिये। जैसे तो एकप्लोसिव एक्ट बना हुआ है। क्या उस एक्ट के विरुद्ध जाकर, उसका उल्लंघन करके डाहनावाइट का उपयोग अज्ञातनामों में नहीं किया जाता है? इस कारण से हमने उस एक्ट को समाप्त नहीं कर दिया है। इस बिल की जो स्पिरिट है उसको आपकी देखाया चाहिये।

[श्री भरत सिंह श्रीहान]

वह ठीक है या नहीं इसको आपकी देखना चाहिये और यह देखना चाहिये कि इस प्रकार की ट्रेनिंग की आवश्यकता है या नहीं है। क्या आप नहीं चाहते हैं कि हमारे बच्चे शिक्षित हों ताकि एक सैकण्ड लाइन आफ डिफेंस जो हम बनाना चाहते हैं वह सड़क की धडी में हमको तैयार मिले और हमें किसी बात की दिक्कत न पड़े। हम धर्रेडों के उमाने में, गुलामी के दिनों में भी सोचा करते थे इस तरह की चीजों के बारे में। लेकिन तब बड़ा मुश्किल होता था। हम कोशिश करने से कि लोगों में आत्मविश्वास की, आत्मबल की भावना पैदा हो, जोश पैदा हो, शौक पैदा हो और उसके लिए हमने धार्ट आफ हूटिंग, ध्राखेट कला के नाम से एनोसार्शन देश में कायम किए थे। हम चाहते थे कि राइफल चलाने का शौक पैदा हो, इसके प्रति मुहब्बत पैदा हो। हम चाहते थे कि लोगों में आत्म-विश्वास पैदा हो। शूटिंग की ट्रेनिंग की कमी देश में महसूस की जा रही है। इसकी व्यवस्था करके हम इस कला को बढ़ावा भी दे सकते हैं। इस क्षेत्र में हमारा साहित्य बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है। धार्ट आफ हूटिंग का, ध्राखेट कला का वर्णन हमें साहित्य और ग्रन्थों आदि में बहुत मिलता है। लेकिन आज यह कला बहुत पिछड़ी हुई है। इसकी प्रति हम ट्रेनिंग की व्यवस्था करके कर सकते हैं।

यह जो बिल आया है, इसका मैं हृदय से समर्थन करता हूँ। शासन से मैं निवेदन करता हूँ कि एक ध्राध और नेशनल स्कीम जो ग्रगर रोक भी ब्रिबा जाए लेकिन इसकी ट्रेनिंग की अनिवार्य रूप से व्यवस्था कर दी जाए तो भी ठीक रहेगा। मैं चाहता हूँ कि शासन इस पर गंभीरता से सोचे और इसको अमल में लाए। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI VASANT SATHI (Ardia): I stand to support the spirit of this Bill. However, I beg to differ from my hon friend Dr Karni Singh, for this simple reason that this Bill does

not mean that every able-bodied person between the ages of 20 and 30 is going to be given a rifle and he will possess bullets. Today, as far as the common man is concerned, he does not want bullets and rifles but he wants bread. So, this Bill is not for them. But the Bill is for the purpose of giving the common man self-confidence, as I understand it, and to make him a better man. You are aware that those people who are in the home guards or in the territorial army or who are in such civil defence organisations have become smarter and better men and more self-confident men with a little better uniform and parading and training in handling of a rifle. Let us, therefore, think of taking this movement of smartening up our even rural folk and even the womenfolk. We can start a nucleus with every police station and tell the police there to train the able-bodied people in that entire locality. This does not mean that they are all going to have the rifles of the police station for their use. That fear need not be there. The responsibility to become a good citizen will accompany this training, and I am sure that it will definitely do a lot of good to the country in times of emergency and even otherwise. So, I entirely support the spirit of this Bill in spite of the fear expressed by the world-known expert in the art of shooting, Dr Karni Singh.

श्री एम० रामवीराल देवडो (निजामाबाद) डा० कर्णी सिंह राजा हैं और मैं राजा नहीं हूँ, एक किसान हूँ।

डा० कर्णी सिंह राजा खत्म हुए बहुत दिन हो गए हैं।

श्री एम० रामवीराल देवडो फिर भी मैं उनके जवालात से इतिहास करना हूँ। जैसे तो हर देश में कुछ लोग होते हैं जो बेश-बोही होते हैं लेकिन बदकिस्मत से कारण मैं बेशबोही बन्ध जाया हूँ। इस बाबते राइफल ट्रेनिंग पर एतपाव करना पड़ता है।

अभी कहा गया है कि राइफल ट्रेनिंग अगर दी जाए तो आदमी में हिम्मत आती है। गांधीजी के पास कोई राइफल नहीं थी आत्मबल था। मैं भी राइफल का इन्ट्रिमाल नहीं कर सकता हूँ। लेकिन फिर भी मैं इन्वैक्शन के वक्त बड़े बड़े मजदूरों का सामना करता हूँ, जो पथराव करते हैं, उनका मुकाबला करता हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि आदमी का बनवाने के लिए बन्दूक की जरूरत नहीं बल्कि खाना पीना उसका अच्छा हाना चाहिये, आदते अच्छी होनी चाहिये, दूध भी वह खाए और थराब भिगरेट आदि में परहेज रहे। इस तरह की चीजों में नागों का ट्रेनिंग करना और इस तरह की परवरिश उनकी करना बहुत जरूरी है।

श्री मूलबन्ध डागा मव साधु बन जाए।

श्री एम० रामगोपाल रेड्डी अगर आदमी मजबूत नहीं होगा तो वह बन्दूक कैसे उठा और चला सकेगा? तब बड़ी मुश्किल हो जाएगी।

पहले हमारे देश में भी जानवर हॉर्न थे और एक राइफल हानो थी। लेकिन आज भी बन्दूकें और एक भी जानवर दिखाई नहीं देना है। कोबा, पीलाक, कब आदि मारे जा चुके हैं। जा थाड़े बहुत बचे हैं ऐसा करके वह भी खत्म हो जाएंगे। इस वारते राइफल ट्रेनिंग नहीं होनी चाहिये। देश में मिलटरी है, फर्स्ट कालम है, सैकिड कालम है, थर्ड कालम है और फोर्थ कालम है। यह फिफथ कालम नहीं होना चाहिये, इतना ही मैं प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN. The debate on this Bill will continue on the appropriate Friday.

17.30 hrs.

HALF-AN HOUR DISCUSSION

RAID ON THE RESIDENCE OF A DIRECTOR OF ANAND BAZAR PATRIKA, CALCUTTA

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour). This paper *Anand Bazar Patrika*, is a monument of CIA's success in infiltration in India in a vital sector of our society. It is a congregation centre for that purpose. Let us find out from the Home Minister how many *Anand Bazar Patrika* people have visited the USA as their guests during the last five years. On the one hand, the leaders are shouting from the roof-tops about CIA activities in the country, on the other, the *Anand Bazar Patrika* is flourishing.

These people have sold their conscience to the American lobby. They congregate there and payment is disbursed to them by the *Anand Bazar Patrika* authorities. Shri Abhik Sarkar, one of the directors, who is the elder son of Shri Ashok Sarkar, is a reporter of the *Asian News Service*, a subsidiary of the *International Press Institute Asian Division*. This Institute is a CIA joint passed in Hongkong, Manila and may other places.

Is it not a fact that Shri Abhik Sarkar got an accreditation from the West Bengal Government's Information and Publicity Department? They were continuously using illegal wire the *Anand Bazar Patrika* and *Hindustan Standard* telex system. I want to know what the intelligence wing of the Post and Telegraph Department does.

I had raised the point in the Consultative Committee of the Home Ministry. The Minister of State in the Ministry Shri Pant, had replied They had praised the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* for the role it played in the freedom struggle.

"About sending the news to America, the Post and Telegraph